

GHOST IN THE SHELL
MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE

攻殻機動隊

ISSUE 1 OF 11

STORY AND ART BY
MASAMUNE SHIROW

TRANSLATION BY
FREDERIK L. SCHODT AND TOREN SMITH

この物語に登場する
様々な設定や解説や概
念は全て妄想の産物で
あり、現実とは無関係
の娯楽物です。服用を
誤る事無くお楽しみ頂
ければ幸いです。
またデタッチ上げやギミ
ックの「誤用」による
二次被害には当方責任
を負いかねます点を御
了承願います。

LETTERING BY
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2



OPEN

MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE CONTROL PREFERENCES



WARNING: READ ME FIRST!

Readers may note that certain panels seem to have been inadvertently left unreversed or have incongruous backwards lettering. These were artistic decisions made by Mr. Shirow during the production of the mirror-imaged foreign edition of *Man-Machine Interface*. — Dark Horse Comics and Studio Proteus

The various situations, explanations, and concepts that appear in this book are a product of my wild imagination, a form of entertainment with no connection to reality. Take according to directions, and enjoy. Be advised that the author assumes no responsibility for any collateral damage resulting from improper use of the various constructs, fabrications, and gimmicks in the story.

APOLOGIES AND CORRECTIONS

In the *Ghost in the Shell* graphic novel published in 1991, the heroine, Motoko Kusanagi, fused with a self-described "intelligent life-form" and left Section 9 of the Public Security Bureau. This story takes place approximately four years and five months later. As a result, this story is quite different from what was originally called *Ghost in the Shell* and featured Public Security's Section 9 (the Special Assault Force). I thought of visually differentiating the new Japanese title from the old one by merely changing the last kanji character, from one that means "military unit" to the homophonic kanji for "body" or "form" (which would shift the meaning of "mobile force" or "riot squad" to something like "mobile-unit-body-entity"), but for a variety of reasons I decided not to do so. To those readers expecting a direct continuation of the prior storyline, I apologize and beg for your understanding. I'm sorry, folks!

— Masamune Shirow

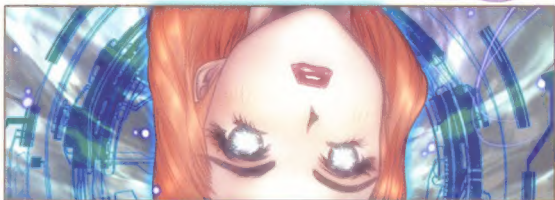
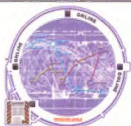
Send comments to:

Interface
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Milwaukie OR 97222 USA

interface@darkhorse.com



Motoko is a hyper-advanced cyborg—her body consists of all of her active drives; her memory of all of her active sources. These are all variable, but on a periodic basis her bio components crave energy and sleep and remind her of her basic identity-layer. To her, the physical world and the world of information are both reality. All existence is life, destined to continue for the unforeseeable future.



攻設機動隊 2 MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE

This is a conceptual representation of the largest e-brain network Motoko can perceive, or sense. It's a complex intertwining of tendrils in what appears to be a tree-like structure, but it is actually too large to grasp in its totality. Far far off in the distance three giant lights are shining, functioning almost like a North Star. Motoko has tried several times to move closer to them but, had no success as they are too far away, and something seems to block her progress. The three lights consist of two giant orbs, and one that is about twenty percent smaller and of a different nature. There are always extremely active visual phenomena, like lightning or solar prominences, flaring back and forth among the lights.

KOUKAKU
KIDOUTAI

W A S H I N E S H I N O W



T F T
The Furry Triangles

IN THE PROFESSOR'S BOOK IT SAYS THE UNIVERSE BEGAN WITH AN ELEMENTAL BIG BANG, THAT IT IS NOW COOLING AND CRYSTALLIZING, AND THAT LIFE IS THE MOST EFFICIENT SYSTEM TO PROMOTE COMPLEXITY PRIOR TO FINAL CRYSTALLIZATION.

SO THE UNIVERSE WILL BE AT ITS MOST COMPLEX FORM WHEN IT'S COOLEST...?



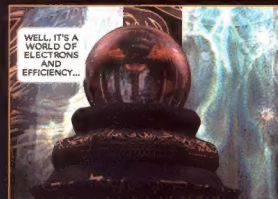
01 PROLOGUE
2035.03.06 AM05:05

IT SEEMS LIKE A COMPLEX UNIVERSE OUGHT TO BE ACTIVE, AND HOT...

...DON'T YOU THINK?



WELL, IT'S A WORLD OF ELECTRONS AND EFFICIENCY...



"CRYSTALLIZATION" here refers to a state where complexity is no longer increasing.



TAMAKI TAMAI,
PSYCHIC
INVESTIGATOR
FROM THE
CHANNELING
AGENCY, AT
YOUR SERVICE.

INSTABILITY OCCURS EVERY THOUSAND
YEARS IN THE THREE TREES OF THE
JIZAITEN SPACE-TIME UNIVERSE.


YES,
SIR.

YOU HAVE BEEN
SPECIALLY
CHOSEN FOR THIS
ASSIGNMENT,
O SEEKER. WE NEED
YOU TO INVESTIGATE
THE APPEARANCE
OF ONE OF THE
MOST COMPLEX
PHENOMENA IN THE
KNOWN UNIVERSE...

WE'RE
PREPARED TO
INTERVENE
WHEN
APPROPRIATE
IF THERE ARE
ANY SECURITY-
RELATED
ISSUES...

...BUT
BASICALLY
WE INTEND
TO LEAVE
THE
DECISION UP
TO ISUZU,
HERE.

JIZAITEN here refers to a temporal and spatial concept of the structure of the universe. It is represented by the image (or, more accurately, the reflection in the spirit realm) of three 'tree' or 'forked' structures, called sansagi. There are sixty-four strata of irrevocably ordered elements that move in precise sequences about the three trees, and one full cycle of their movement is equivalent to the life of the universe. It's certainly one of the more unique concepts to come out of the human brain.



PROFESSOR RAHAMPOL, WHO IS SAID TO BE THE CREATOR OF THOSE WHO-ARE-COMPLEX, WAS ATTACKED AND KILLED BY PIRATES ON THE OPEN SEA AFTER MEETING WITH SOME EAST INDIAN MATHEMATICIANS.

YES, WE'VE ALREADY CONFIRMED THAT THROUGH THE MDF CRUISER SHIRASU, AND SPECIAL FORCES.



AND WHAT OF THE OTHER "CREATOR"-LIKE SPIRIT?



MULTIPLE SHADOWS ARE SHIFTING, AND I CAN'T CONFIRM IT COMPLETELY, BUT...

...THERE APPEARS TO BE NO CHANGE.

AS FAR AS WE KNOW, SHE HAS ALREADY FUSED WITH FOUR KEY SPIRITS, THE MOST RECENT BEING EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO...

HER TEMPORARY POST-FUSION CHAOS SEEMS TO HAVE CEASED, AND SHE IS NOW QUITE STABLE.



SHE CALLS HERSELF **MOTOKO ARAMAKI**.

THE TIME IS APPROACHING FOR YOU TO CARRY OUT YOUR ASSIGNMENT WITH UT MOST DEVOTION.



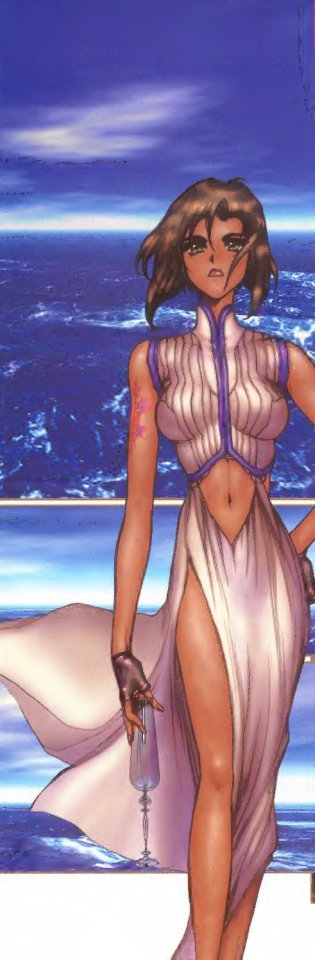
YES, SIR.

MDF: Marine Defense Force

N13°10'32.9 E148°22'45.6

LOCATION: ON THE OPEN SEA, 153 MINUTES FROM THE CONTROL AREA OF THE FLOATING CITY OF POSEIDON.
SPEED: FIFTEEN KNOTS PER HOUR.





ROCKY,
CONAN...
RECHECK
THE
E-BRAIN
PROTEC-
TION
SETTINGS.

IF EVERY-
THING'S
OKAY, I
WANT YOU
TO SCAN
FOR A
WHITE
TANUKI ON
THE DECK...

A
WHIA...?!

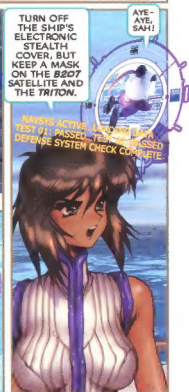
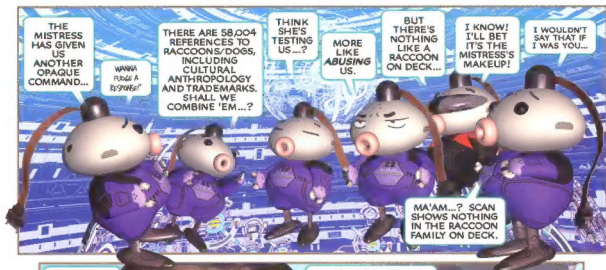


SETTINGS ALL
OKAY. "WHITE
TANUKI"... THAT
SOME KIND OF
CODE NAME?

NO, A REAL TANUKI,
A "RACCOON DOG"...!
YOU KNOW, LIKE THE
ONE'S IN PICTURE BOOKS
OF ANJAL'S.

JUST
DO THE
SCAN





It's easy to shrug off psychic phenomena as being "unscientific," but assuming the person experiencing them isn't totally faking it, it's probably more scientific to consider such experiences in psychological or neuro-physiological terms. They could, for example, be considered the result of "naturally-occurring magnetic or electrical phenomena that affect the brain," or they could be analyzed as a type of "mass hypnosis," etc. It's unscientific to laugh off poorly understood phenomena instead of trying to analyze them.



THE
DOCTOR'S
SHIP IS
SURFACING...

IT'S THE SAME
TYPE AS BEFORE--
THE SEVENTH SPB
DELIVERED TO
THE U.S. NAVY IN
FISCAL 2026 BY
NMD, INC.

DOES THE
NAVY STILL
THINK THEY
ORDERED AND
PURCHASED
SIX?

LEMME
CHECK
HOL
HOL



MAYBE WE
SHOULD
~~ENCOURAGE~~
OUR
PURSUER A
BIT, AND
SEE HOW
HE
RESPONDS

THERE'S A RESIDUAL
DISPLAY-CONVERSION
PROGRAM IN NMD'S
CORE E-BRAIN.
SHALL WE DELETE
IT FOR THEM?

THAT
JUST
WARNS OF
PURSUERS
LEAVE IT
ALONE.



CAUTION

FLYING SHIP
CONFIRMED AT 27°6',
AZIMUTH 7°,
APPARENTLY LINKING
WITH THE DOCTOR...

IT'S A PHASED
ARRAY
MEASUREMENT.

FLYING
SHIP HAS
LAUNCHED
TWO RRVs,
NOW HEADED
TOWARD US...

GUN STATION
3 NOW
LOCKED ON
TARGET

THEY'RE JUST
SCOUTING

LAST TIME
THEY USED
MACKEREL-
SHAPED
AQUATIC
RRVs, AND
THOSE GOT
EATEN BY
SHARKS.

THE DOCTOR'S
APPROACHING
VISUAL RANGE

RRVs
PASSING
OVERHEAD...
NOW.

JUDGING
BY THE
RESOLUTION
OF THEIR CCD
CAMERAS,
WE'VE GOT
THE EDGE.

NOT SO
FAST.
REMEMBER,
NEVER
UNDER-
ESTIMATE
THE
DOCTOR!

Normally the Robotic Reconnaissance Vehicles (RRVs) would be flying further apart, but I put them close together because it makes for a better illustration.

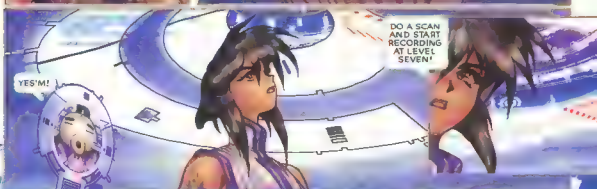


Military ships in this era are semi-submersible in style, with the upper bulwarks done in "dazzle ships" camouflage (against satellites and anti-sub craft). In emergencies, smaller ships surface and move at high speed on hydrofoils, usually using solar power generators. Many have catamaran hulls and magnetic propulsion systems. Here, the Doctor seems to be demonstrating to Motoko that he means no harm.





IT'S SURE WEIRD.



WELL

GOOD TO SEE YOU





SO. HAVE
YOU BEEN
USING MY
CREATION
WELL?

EXCUSE ME.
FOOLISH
QUESTION.

ANYTHING
TO REPORT
FROM THE
FIELD?



SPLITTING UP
THESE MUSCLES
AND CREATING
A COMPOUND
BOWGUN WAS
AN EXCELLENT
IDEA.

UNDER NORMAL
MOVEMENTS
THE OUTPUT
CURVE IS
REVERSED AT
THE HIGH END.

I WISH THE
MINIGRENADES
HADN'T BEEN
SHRUNK QUITE
SO MUCH, BUT
I KNOW THERE
WERE SPACE
CONSTRAINTS.



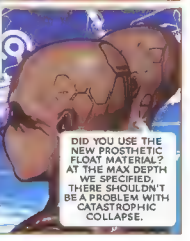
YOU COULD
CREATE A
SINGLE-ACTION
PROTOTYPE
MICROBOW FOR
A WRIST GUARD
AND MAKE THE
EXPLOSIVE CORE
HALF-SIZE...

AH, BUT
PLAYING
AROUND WITH
TOO MANY
TOYS LIKE
THAT WOULD
THROW YOUR
BODY OFF-
BALANCE.



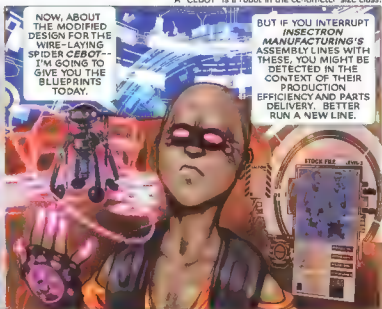
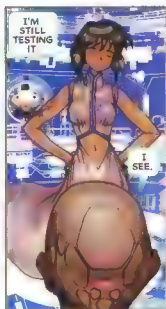
BLIMBLY
YOU COULD
MAKE 'EM
SO THEY
DON'T
AFFECT MY
BALANCE!

PLANNING TO
KNOCK DOWN
FLYING
CONNECTOR
PLUGS WITH
YOUR ARMS IN
THE FUTURE...?



DID YOU USE THE
NEW PROSTHETIC
FLOAT MATERIAL?
AT THE MAX DEPTH
WE SPECIFIED,
THERE SHOULDN'T
BE A PROBLEM WITH
CATASTROPHIC
COLLAPSE.

A "CEBOT" is a robot in the centimeter-size class.



The "thread" referred to here is laid down to transmit signals. It's not the sort of lifeline thread a spider would use to physically connect itself to its web.





THIS IS THE SOUTH SHORE AREA OF HANAVA, AN INDUSTRIAL CITY IN CENTRAL NAJIG.

IT'S THE MANUFACTURING BASE FOR A SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL CORPORATION CALLED MATRIKA.

TWO HOURS AGO A MAJOR DEMONSTRATION WAS STAGED HERE OVER UNPAID BACK WAGES.

YOU'RE NOT SAYING I'M THE REASON MATRIKA'S HOME ROBOTS AREN'T SELLING WELL, ARE YOU? I BOUGHT AND USE THREE OF THEM!

THEIR DRAW CLEANING CLOTH IS REALLY GOOD...


NO. FORTY MINUTES AGO, AT A UNION MEETING HALL, MORE THAN TWENTY PEOPLE WERE SLAUGHTERED. IT HAS INFLAMED ETHNIC TENSIONS...

... AND IS TURNING INTO QUITE A BLOODY AFFAIR.

AND THIS IS THE GROUP POURING FUEL ON THE FIRE...

IT'S THREE PLATOONS LED BY COLONEL CHAWA, AN ETHNIC DETERMINIST FROM THE NATIONAL ARMY'S SPECIAL FORCES.

DETERMINIST: A general term applied to those who reject compromise and assimilation and insist that others be of a specific ethnicity, race, religion, or faction. Everyone's entitled to make harsh demands of themselves, of course, but making them of others is an unwelcome disservice.



I WANT YOU TO STOP THESE THUGS BEFORE THE PLACE FALLS INTO CIVIL WAR AND A NEIGHBORING STATE OR A UN MULTINATIONAL FORCE HAS TO INTERVENE

BUT YOU DON'T WANT ME TO TOTALLY BLOW MY COVER AND STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-GOVERNMENT FORCE'S POSITION, RIGHT?

ACTUALLY, THAT'S NOT SO IMPORTANT.

WELL, I WON'T ASK ANY MORE QUESTIONS, THEN.

I'VE CONFIRMED THE RIOT BY SATELLITE, BOSS.

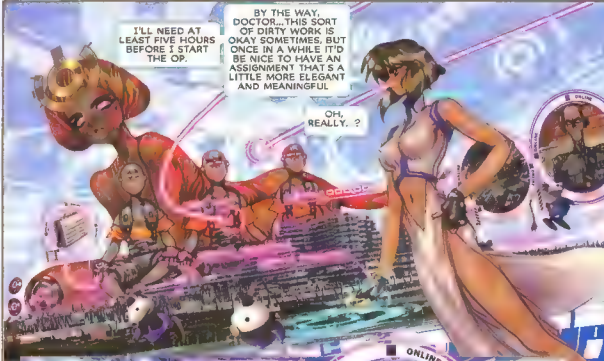
CHUI! SHIVA! GET ME INFO FROM THE UN AND THE U.S. DEFENSE DEPARTMENT DELTA-VEE THE RELAY SATELLITE'S ORBIT FOR BACK-UP PLAN BETA, AND BE BATTLE-READY!

HANNIBAL! ACTIVATE DECOY "CLARA II" ON SYSLINK C.O.I. STANDBY WITH MOTO-CHAN'S BASAKA-PAK CHEMBOOST "ULTRA VIOLENCE"...

YES, MA'AM!

MORE DATA-- THE SOLDIERS DON'T BOTHER TO HIDE THEIR IDENTITIES BECAUSE THEY'RE AT THE TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN, NOT BECAUSE THEY'RE POORLY TRAINED. THEY'RE AN ELITE GROUP, AND THEY INCLUDE TWELVE SOLDIERS WITH ADVANCED PROSTHETICS.

NO USE WARNING HER ABOUT THAT.



I'LL NEED AT
LEAST FIVE HOURS
BEFORE I START
THE OP.

BY THE WAY,
DOCTOR...THIS SORT
OF DIRTY WORK IS
OKAY SOMETIMES, BUT
ONCE IN A WHILE IT'D
BE NICE TO HAVE AN
ASSIGNMENT THAT'S A
LITTLE MORE ELEGANT
AND MEANINGFUL

OH,
REALLY. ?



WE'LL DROP
THE REGULAR
SUPPLIES AT
COORDINATES

SO YOU CAN
PICK THEM UP
LATER.

BY THE
WAY...WHY
DO YOU
ALWAYS
INSIST ON
BEING
DIRECT-
WIRED?



ME?!

AH...FORGET
I ASKED
GOOD LUCK
ON THE JOB.



??

THE DOCTOR
HAS REVERSED
COURSE HE'S
EJECTING
SOME SORT
OF CARGO AT
COORDINATES



UM...BY THE WAY...DURING
YOUR DISCUSSION I
DETECTED AND BLOCKED
FOUR DIFFERENT TYPES OF
EXPLORATORY VIRUSES
AND RECORDED
SUCCESSFUL INTERCEPTS
OF SIX TRACKING BUOYS.

RUN ANOTHER
SEARCH FOR
CEBOTS AND
NANOS
AROUND THE
BOAT, JUST TO
BE SURE.

MAX! RETRIEVE
THE SUITCASE THE
DOCTOR EJECTED
AND CHECK IT,
THEN RETURN OUR
SHIP TO ITS
ORIGINAL COURSE!

MUSASHI!
BACK UP
MAX!

AYE-
AYE!

LEXI
COMANI
YOU CAN
RETURN
NOW.

MURRAH!

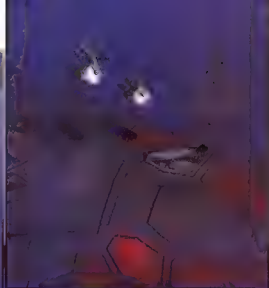
MUSASHI! SEAL
THE MI DECOT, AND
DO A 1MW PERIPHERY
CLEAN-UP PULSE!

THEN AFTER
DELIVERING THE
SUITCASE, RETURN THE
SHIP TO ITS PREVIOUS
COURSE AND
CRUISING SPEED!

SO MANY
COMMANDS
AT ONCE..

UP TO MI
REMOTE OFFLINE
COUNT 00.00

DECOT: A word derived from "decoy" and "robot," normally used to refer to remotely controlled prosthetic bodies, etc. Coined during wartime, it's not the perfect term in this case, but it's commonly used in Motoko's world.



RETURN
COMPLETE



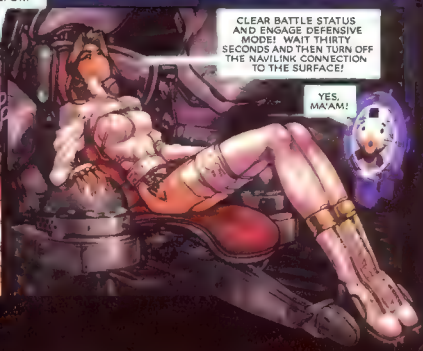
SWITCHING
MAIN
SYSTEM
BACK TO
NORMAL.

GIVE ME
A SYSTEM
CHECK
REPORT



CLEAR BATTLE STATUS
AND ENGAGE DEFENSIVE
MODE! WAIT THIRTY
SECONDS AND THEN TURN OFF
THE NAVILINK CONNECTION
TO THE SURFACE!

YES,
MA'AM!



Note: The "P.I. UNIT" lettering has been left reversed at Mr. Shirow's request.

THE DOC
THINKS I
LIKE BEING
WIRED, EH?
WONDER IF
HE DETECTED
THIS SHIP-
SUB LINK?

CONAN! ADD
THE DOCTOR'S
LATEST REQUEST TO
HIS PREVIOUS ONES,
AND ESTIMATE HIS
DEBT/EQUITY
POSITION BASED ON
THE ADVANTAGES
HE ACCRUES

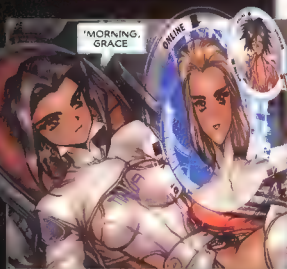
HONORED
TO DO SO,
KIND
MISTRESS

GOT A CALL FROM
EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY GRACE
AT POSEIDON

IT'S THE
REGULAR
MORNING
BRIEFING.
STILL, BETTER
RUN IT
THROUGH THE
ARMORED
VPN

ALL CLEAR. NOW
CONNECTING..

PROTECTIVE
ACCESS



'MORNING, GRACE



GOOD MORNING, CHIEF ARAMAKI



THERE'S BEEN A CHANGE IN TODAY'S PLANS. AN URGENT EXECUTIVE MEETING IS BEING CONVENED AT 08:05 REGARDING THE FOLLOWING URGENT EVENT--

--AT 07:42 HOURS, HQ TIME, A LEVEL ORANGE DESTRUCTIVE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE AT MEDITECH BHEREL'S EASTERN MONNABIA PLANT #2.



THE HLF UP TO THEIR TRICKS AGAIN, hmm? SO HAS THE RESPONSE PROGRAM BEEN INITIATED?

IT'S FUNCTIONING PERFECTLY!



I'LL FORWARD THE IN-PROCESS MATERIALS. WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO ABOUT SUBMITTING THEM TO THE EXECUTIVE MEETING?



RUN THEM THROUGH AS IS, BUT SET THE EXPRESSION LEVEL SO THE RISK GRAPHS HAVE A BIT MORE OF A PSYCHOLOGICAL AND VISUAL EFFECT.

BUT DON'T OVERDO IT! THEY ARE EXPERTS, AFTER ALL.

OH, AND INVITE LEBRIS, THE MEDITECH JUNIOR PROJECT LEADER, TO THE EXECUTIVE MEETING.



I'LL TRY
TO DO A
FOLLOW-
UP SURVEY
BETWEEN
08:03 AND
09:00.

FINE. I'LL GO
AHEAD AND
RESCHEDULE
YOUR MEETING
WITH MR. OH
OF THE
EJUNOZAI
COMPANY

I RECORDED THE
"ONE HUNDRED
PEOPLE, ONE
HUNDRED SHAPES"
LECTURE GIVEN
BY PROFESSOR
REPLIANO ON
NWNW, AND PUT IT
IN THE QUEUE.

ANY
MAJOR
GAFFES
THIS
TIME...?

WELL, LOOKING
AT THE COMPLAINTS
RECEIVED AFTER
THE SHOW, THEY
WERE ALL WITHIN
THE USUAL LIMITS.

I ENCLOSED ALL RELATED
MATERIALS IN THE FILE

A BIT OF A
PROBLEM
"WITHIN THE
USUAL LIMITS"
WOULD
ACTUALLY BE
BETTER...

...ESPECIALLY
SINCE HE'S
THE MAN IN
CHARGE OF
RELIGIOUS
ISSUES AT
OUR PRECIOUS
POSEIDON
INDUSTRIAL
COMPANY



MISTRESS...?
WE'RE HAVING
DIFFICULTY
PINNING DOWN
THE DOCTOR'S
POSITION.
FACTORY
OFFSETTING IT
AVERAGE 32%...

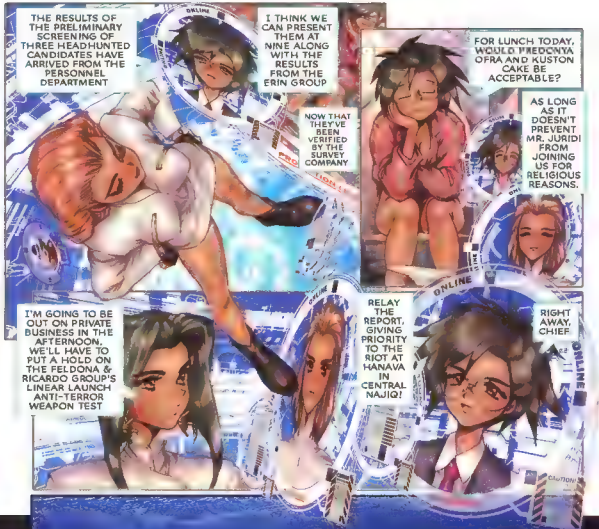
OKAY

LEX! KEEP CRUISING
UNDERWATER AND
DOING PULSE CLEANING
FOR THIRTY MINUTES,
THEN FULL SPEED FOR
HEADQUARTERS

CONAN!
STAND BY
FOR ENTRY
TO HQ
AREA 7B!

YES'M!





THE RESULTS OF
THE PRELIMINARY
SCREENING OF
THREE HEADHUNTED
CANDIDATES HAVE
ARRIVED FROM THE
PERSONNEL
DEPARTMENT

I THINK WE
CAN PRESENT
THEM AT
NINE ALONG
WITH THE
RESULTS
FROM THE
ERIN GROUP

NOW THAT
THEY'VE
BEEN
VERIFIED
BY THE
SURVEY
COMPANY

FOR LUNCH TODAY,
WOULD FREDCNYA
OFRA AND KUSTON
CAKE BE
ACCEPTABLE?

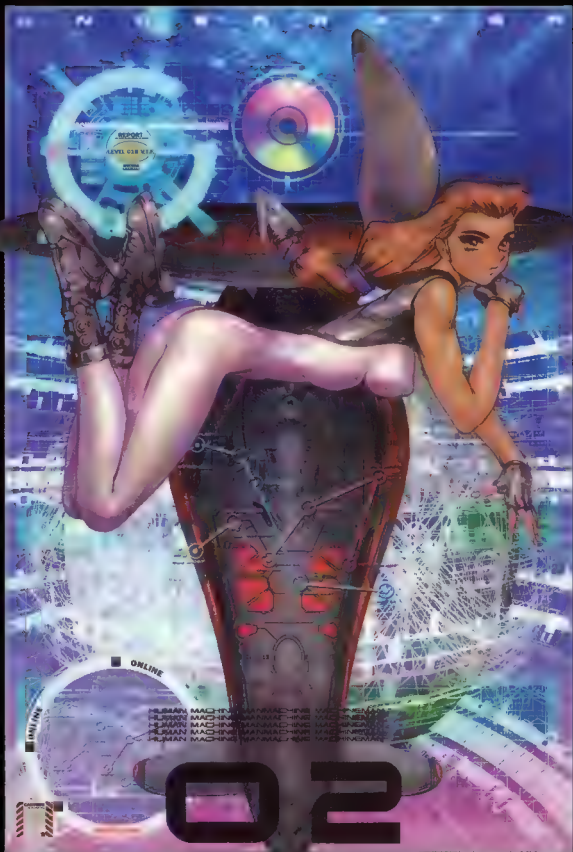
AS LONG
AS IT
DOESN'T
PREVENT
MR. JURIDI
FROM
JOINING
US FOR
RELIGIOUS
REASONS.

I'M GOING TO BE
OUT ON PRIVATE
BUSINESS IN THE
AFTERNOON.
WE'LL HAVE TO
PUT A HOLD ON
THE FELDONA &
RICARDO GROUP'S
LINEAR LAUNCH
ANTI-TERROR
WEAPON TEST

RELAY
THE
REPORT,
GIVING
PRIORITY
TO THE
RIOT AT
HANAVA
IN
CENTRAL
NAJIQ!

RIGHT
AWAY,
CHIEF

THAT'S
ALL FOR
NOW,
GRACE



2035.03.06.AM05:45

N26°04'12.2 E162°47'00.2

LOCATION: 11 MINUTES FROM THE CONTROL AREA OF
THE FLOATING CITY OF POSEIDON

SPEED: FIFTEEN KNOTS PER HOUR, SUBMERGED



YOU MEAN
STATISTICS IS JUST
ANOTHER TYPE OF
ASTROLOGY?!

AH, MISTRESS! WE'VE DISCOVERED
A SUSPICIOUS SHIP! WE'RE PUTTING
THE DATA TOGETHER NOW... ONE OF
OUR TOP COMMANDOS IS
PREPARING TO LAUNCH RIGHT AWAY.

DON'T FORGET MY
REPAIRS LATER!

WHAT
WAS
THAT...?

LOOKS LIKE THEY
WON'T NOTICE US...
POP AN ANTENNA
BUOY AND
APPROACH THEM
FROM THE STERN.
STAND BY...

TARGET
CENTER
X: 0000M
Y: -050M
Z: -810M
+/-005M

ER,
MISTRESS...
WE ARRIVE
IN AREA 7B
IN FIVE
MINUTES..

This is an extremely quiet environment. The ship uses noise-canceling superconductive ram propulsion and has auxiliary muscle-powered wings. All conversation takes place within the participants' e-brains (and is thus inaudible). And active sonar is rarely used in this age.

CHANGE
OF PLANS.
HOLD OFF
ON AREA
78

IKURA, CLASS 244 MILOV

STANDARD
DISPLACEMENT
LENGTH
SURFACE SPEED
UNDERWATER
SPEED
LAUNCH TUBES

1700 TONS
60 METERS
16 KNOTS

WINDMATER
SPEED
LAUNCH TUBES

32 KNOTS (NOM 5 KNOTS)
4 (NOM ARMED)

INTERCEPTION SCENARIOS
POTENTIAL ARMAMENTS

CREW 32 STANDARD, DETAILS UNKNOWN
MAXIMUM SAFE DIVE DEPTH (OFFICIAL) 500 METERS
PASSIVE SONAR- BQQ-6, PLUS TASS CABLE
(UNCONFIRMED)
ACTIVE SONAR- "DOLPHIN" TYPE (POWERED DOWN)

SHIP FIRST LAUNCHED

2034-03 VANISHES IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

2034-11 PIRATE ACTIVITIES OBSERVED

2035-01 SIGHTED IN WATERS OFF SYDNEY

SHIP HAS GRAFFITI ON HULL.
CONDITION OF EXTERIOR GOOD TO AVERAGE
(PRESSURE WARPING IN SPOTS HIGHLIGHTED)
NO APPLICABLE FILE AVAILABLE IN POSSESSION

PIRATE
ACTIVITIES
IN THE
SOUTH
CHINA
SEA...?
SEEMS
AWFULLY
OUT OF
PLACE
HERE.

I WONDER IF
THEY'RE HERE
SCOUTING
BECAUSE
SOME CARGO
ROUTES WERE
CHANGED....
hmm

OKAY,
"VOLUNTEER
COMMANDO,"
IT'S TIME TO
LAUNCH

I WANT YOU TO
ATTACH A
PHYSICAL LINE AND
A COUPLE GPS
MINES TO THE SHIP
AND THEN RETURN

AYE-AYE,
CAP'N!

$$\begin{aligned} & \vdash B L B B \vdash \\ & \vdash B L R B \vdash \end{aligned}$$

DANIEL

Newer torpedoes are designed to swim out of their launch tubes, so the noise previously generated during firing by the compressed-air "blow" is no longer a problem. In this case they're also using water currents generated by the propulsion system to augment initial speed. (In other words, the launch tubes also have vectored-thrust nozzles on them.) I should also mention the reason that neither ship has bubble makers is because I decided it wouldn't look good visually.

ATTACH THE
DATALINE TO THEIR
TOWED ANTENNA,
AND DEPOSIT OUR
LITTLE GIFTS ON THE
SIDE VENTS NEAR
THE SUB'S ELEVATOR
PLANES.

GOTCHA,
BOSS

VLF ANTENNA FEED HATCH

STARLIGHT VIEW

GUESS WE DO HAVE
TO ATTACH IT IF WE
WANT IT TO WORK
UNDERWATER.
SORRY, MA'AM.

FORGIVEN

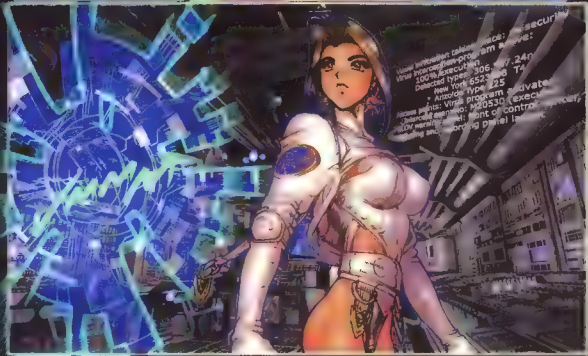
WE DO BETTER
THIS TIME.

COMM DEVICE
HAS FLOATED
UP, ALONG
WITH DECREASE
IN SHIP SPEED.
SETTING
SATELLITE
ARRAY... NOW
ACTIVATED.

BARRIERS, 11...
DECOYS, 8...
SUPPORTS, 2.
STAND BY!


NOW... LET'S
JUST HOPE
THEIR COMM
SPECIALIST'S
AN IDIOT WITH
A LOW-RES
E-BRAIN...

VLF: Very Low Frequency



Hmph...THAT KIND OF BARRIER MAZE IS WORTHLESS. MIGHT AS WELL DELETE THE ALARMS, TOO.

CHEAP MODS... I LIKE THIS!





WE'VE ENTERED
POSEIDON'S CONTROL
SECTOR FOUR. SAFETY
SENSORS ALL CLEAR.
NO CHANGE IN
SURROUNDING
CONDITIONS


TARGET
PROCEEDING IN
SUBMERGED MODE
TWO MINUTES TO
RETRIEVAL OF VLF
ANTENNA.



DAMN...
WOULDN'T
YOU KNOW IT?
NO SPECIFIC
PLAN OF
ACTION...NO
OP RECORD
EITHER.

JUST THE
BORING OLD
NAV LOGS...
SHOULD I
PULL IT?

AH, WAIT
A SEC--HERE'S
THE CREW
RECOGNITION
FILE!



RUN A
CHECK ON
THESE GUYS
THROUGH
THE MILITARY
AND POLICE
CRIMINAL
DATA BASES
OF ALL
NATIONS
AROUND THE
SOUTH CHINA
SEA, ON THE
DOUBLE!

The slack in the wire is (supposed) to indicate the ship is slowing. The wire linking the pirate sub with Motoko's is for hacking purposes. There's a buoy on the end of the one trailing out the back of her sub, allowing UHF global connections via satellite.



A FLOAT'S
BEING
REPLACED AT
12 DEGREES
SOUTH, 700
METERS.

TRIGGER A
FALSE
EMERGENCY
EVAC FROM
GAS
EMISSIONS



QUERY
NOW 80%
COMPLETE.
THREE NON-
SPECIFIC
HITS, ONE
UNCLEAR

NO RESPONSE
ON ANTIVIRUS
BARRIERS
OR OTHER
OBSTACLES.

WHEN YOU FINISH,
FORWARD THAT
FILE TO POSEIDON
SECURITY.

UNDER A
PSEUDONYM,
OF COURSE.



BUT DON'T
SEND
ANYTHING
ABOUT THE
SUB. YET

YES



HEY!
WHAT'RE
YOU
DOIN',
MAN?



WHAT
THE... AW.
SHIT!!

ARGH .
NOT MY
LUCKY
DAY



I SHOULD
HAVE
DIVED IN
DEEPER

RUN HIM FROM
INSIDE HIS
PERSONALITY.



DUNNO WHO THE HELL YOU ARE, BUT YA SHOULDN'TA BROKE MY BUDDY'S ARM.

AUGH!

ARAF



FUCK! WASTE A TIME TOO.



CHUDO

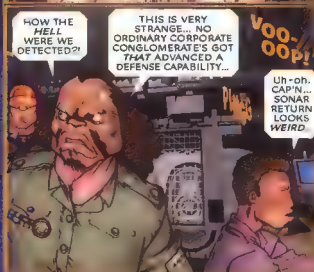


MINDY!



CUT THE CONNECTION! ALL BACK FULL! GET US OUT OF HERE AT MAX ZERO-CAV SPEED!

FIRE TWO ACTIVE DECOYS AND PREPARE FOR A SHOCK!



Normally Moto would not have to cover her ears to protect them from the active sonar ping, because she can block the sound through software. (On the other hand, it's always good to protect your eardrums.) She probably didn't want to lose her passive sonar link with the pirate sub, since re-linking might allow a hacker to infiltrate using sound.

OKAY, STOP
OPENING OUR
RANGE CHANGE
COURSE TO USE
THE FLOATS AS
A SHIELD

AYE-AYE,
SAH!

PLACE TWO
ACTIVE DECOYS
JUST IN FRONT OF
OUR TORPEDO
LAUNCH TUBE
OPENINGS!
RELEASE SAFETY
LOCKS ON THEM
AND ON THE
MINES!

SAFETY
LOCKS ON
OPERATIONAL
EXPLOSIVES
ARE RELEASED!
STANDING BY
TO DETONATE!

Commands for decoys are issued using audio frequencies.

NOW
STAND
BY!

?!?
WHAT
THE HELL?!
THE SENSORS
HAVE ALL
GONE
SCREWY!

AW, SHIT!
ALL SYSTEMS
ARE GOING
DOWN!
BREAKERS
POPPING!

SWITCH
TO
MANUAL!!

FORGET THE
ELECTRONICS!!

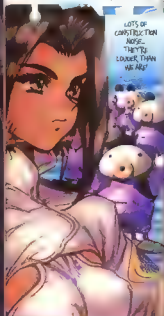
BACKUP
POWER
COMING
ON LINE..
WHAT TH--?
HEY!!

CUT THE
DAMN LINK
CABLE!
NOW!!

OBSERVATION
TEAM! SCAN
THE WORDS
COMING FROM
INSIDE THE
TARGET SHIP
AND EVALUATE
THEIR
RESPONSE.

UM, IT'S A
TYPE D,
CURRENTLY
RANGING
IN STRESS
RANK
BETWEEN
12 AND 13.

LOTS OF
CONSTRUCTION
NOISE..
THEY'RE
LOUDER THAN
WE ARE!



DAMN IT!
WE'VE
SCREWED!

RAISE
THE COMM
ANTENNA.
MAKE AN
EMERGENCY
REPORT TO
SECURITY

B-BUT.. WHAT IF
LOCAL PATROLS
AND CONTROLS
ARE
INTENSIFIED...?



DON'T
WORRY.
IT'LL
WORK
OUT

HEY?! WHO
THE HELL JUST
EVACUATED?!



WELL, SHIT!
DUNNO
WHAT'S
GOING ON,
BUT DAMNED
IF I'M
GONNA SINK
WITHOUT
KICKING
SOME ASS!

MARGHERITA!
CHECHILIA!
ACTIVATE
WITH "CREW"
PROGRAM!

YES,
SIR

ONE
SECOND
SIR

I WANT YOU TO
MANUALLY RELEASE
THE SAFETY ON EACH
TORPEDO TUBE!
THEN FIRE 'EM ALL
AROUND US!

PLEASE
DEFINE
"ALL
AROUND
US."

DO YOU
WANT AUTO
SETTINGS. ?

YES, BUT
DON'T
SHOOT THE
ESCAPE
PODS!
SWITCH ON
THE IFF!

Torpedoes are normally loaded automatically. Let's assume these hatches are normally used to remove torpedoes, not to load new ones. The sailorette with her hands on the hatch is doing a safety check. (Of course, these sailorettes are really stolen goods, probably designed to be on-board waitresses...or something.) It's a submarine, so no alarms are ringing even though the emergency lights are on.

For the record, this takes into account the possibility that the GPS mines might be duds.

WE'VE DETECTED THE SOUND OF THE TARGET SHIP'S TORPEDO LAUNCH TUBES BEING FLOODED!

YOU GET OKAY NUMBERS FOR REFLECTED SHOCK? PUT TWO DECOYS ON STANDBY, JUST TO BE SURE.

AT THIS DISTANCE WE OUGHT TO BE ALL RIGHT.

SON OF A BITCH RAT BASTARDS! I AIN'T GOIN' DOWN WITH MY SHIP!

FIRE!

WHKROOM



Hmm...
YOU THINK
WE EJECTED
IN A BAD
PLACE?

HELP!
SOMEBODY
HELP!

OKAY, LET'S TAKE
THE SHORTEST
POSSIBLE COURSE
TO AREA 78,
BEFORE SECURITY
GETS HERE.

THREE ESCAPE PODS DAMAGED FROM SHOCK. DESTROYED
OR TAKING IN WATER. OUR SHIP'S HULL DISTORTION
WITHIN ALLOWABLE LIMITS. FURTHER DETAILS NEEDED?

GIVE US
THE ORDER
TO SAIL! WE
WANT THE
ORDER!!

SAIL!!

HEY! YOU
CAN'T GIVE
COMMANDS!



P.M. 12:46 MOTOKO'S OFFICE

A few hours later,
searching the nav
log obtained from
the p rates, Motoko
made a priceless
discovery—a tiny
file authored by
Professor Rahampol

WHAT
THE...?
LOOKS LIKE
A PHILOSOPHY
TEXT WRITTEN
BY ALIENS.

She could have dumped
the file on the public net,
but something didn't seem
right to her, so she decided
to keep it to analyze later.
It was filed away in a
corner of her hardened
e-brain with all the other
information she had, and
sealed. She would find
some time later to slowly
figure out what it meant.



TO BE CONTINUED...

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MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE

攻殻機動隊

ISSUE # OF 11

STORY AND ART BY

MASAMUNE SHIROW

TRANSLATION BY

FREDERIK L. SCHOOT AND TOREN SMITH

この物語に登場する
様々な設定や解説や概
念は全て妄想の産物で
あり、現実とは無関係
の娯楽物です。服用を
誤る事無くお楽しみ頂
ければ幸いです。
またデッチ上げやギミ
ックの「誤用」による
二次被害には当方責任
を負いかねます点を御
了承願います。

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2

OPEN

MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE SYSTEM

C I R C U I T W E A P O

03



2035.03.06.AM08:12



LOOKS GOOD
KEEP IT
UP



Meditech customers deposit specific genes with the company and purchase rights to a pig. The genes are spliced into pig ova, which are then fertilized and the pigs raised. If, for some reason, the customer later needs to have a transplant, he or she can use organs from the pigs without risk of rejection by the human immune system. While some religious and animal rights groups have criticized this system, it is increasingly popular with society at large and represents a huge profit growth area for PosiGen.

I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T SAY THIS, BUT EVEN AT THIS DISTANCE I'M GETTING A WHIFF OF ROASTED PORK...

SHIT! IT'S THOSE BASTARDS FROM THE HUMAN LIBERATION FRONT...!

IT'S A MIRACLE WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY FATALITIES AMONG THE LOCAL STAFF.

NO, IT'S NOT A MIRACLE...

...IT'S BECAUSE ARAMAKI HERE DID SUCH A GOOD JOB FOR US

BUT I THOUGHT WE'D REACHED A SETTLEMENT WITH THE HLF...?

CLEARLY IT WAS SCRAPPED!

WE'VE ALREADY STARTED OUR ANTI-HLF PR CAMPAIGN WITH MULTIMEDIA ADVERTISING SHOWING CHILDREN WAITING FOR ORGAN TRANSPLANTS


GRR!

MAY THE LORD PUNISH THEM...

YOU SURE IT'S NOT SOME SORT OF SABOTAGE BY THE CLONE TEAM?

THAT THE ONLY THING YOU CAN THINK UP?

The technology exists to manufacture for safety reasons Poseidon Industrial has chosen to from its customers while they're young and healthy from cells taken from them when they're older "programmed cellular death" problem




WE'LL ALLOW THE
LOCAL POLICE ONTO THE
SCENE IN APPROXIMATELY
SIX HOURS. WE'LL DECIDE
WHAT TO DO WITH
THE FACILITIES AT OUR
NEXT MEETING

ANYTHING
WE SHOULD
LOOK INTO
BEFORE
THEN?



WE'RE GOING TO
SUBMIT, FOR YOUR
RECONSIDERATION, OUR
PROPOSAL TO MOVE
MEDITECH TO AN AS-YET
UNZONED SECTOR IN
PEGASUS, THE FLOATING
CITY CURRENTLY BEING
BUILT IN THE INDIAN
OCEAN

I HAVE TO WARN
YOU, THOUGH,
THAT THE PLAN
DIFFERS IN
SEVERAL DETAILS
FROM WHAT WE
SUBMITTED
PREVIOUSLY



I SEE **YOUNG
LEBRIS** IS BEING
KEPT ON AS
SUPERINTENDENT.
YES?



WELL, I FEEL
THIS INCIDENT
HAS
SIGNIFICANTLY
RAISED HIS
ANTI-
TERRORISM
AWARENESS..



...AND HE'S
EXTREMELY
TALENTED ON
MATTERS OTHER
THAN SAFETY
AND SECURITY.
IT DIDN'T SEEM
NECESSARY TO
REPLACE HIM.



YOU'RE TOO
NAÏVE,
ARAMAKI!!
WHO'S GOING
TO TAKE
RESPONSIBILITY,
EH?

THERE'S NO SENSE
ARGUING ABOUT THAT IF
WE CAN'T RECOVER FROM
THE CURRENT SITUATION
OR MAKE GOOD OUR
LOSSES. MATTERS WOULD
BE DIFFERENT IF THERE
WAS MALICE INVOLVED.

AND THE
FIDS ARE
CLEAR.



DIFFERENT'...?

YOU'D
LIKE
IT



WELL, IF
THERE ARE NO
OTHER
ITEMS...THE
NEXT MEETING
IS IN THIRTY
MINUTES.

DISMISSED!



ARAMAKI, THE
TEAM HANDLING
THE REPUBLIC
OF EASTERN
MONNABIA'S
WAITING FOR
YOU.



I'LL BE
FIVE
MINUTES
LATE...



AM I
SUPPOSED
TO BE
GRATEFUL...?

I THINK
YOU AND
VINCHAWAN,
THE PEGASUS
SUPERINTENDENT,
OUGHT TO GET
ALONG PRETTY
WELL

IF YOU HAVE
A PROBLEM,
CONTACT MY
SECRETARY
NOW, IF YOU'LL
EXCUSE ME...



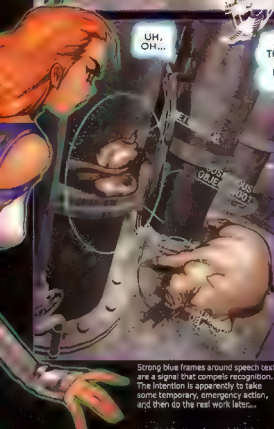
AIRSHIP! HAS
THAT PROBE
CEBOT WITH
THE CX
MANIPULATORS
ARRIVED AT
SECTOR 12-B
YET?

TWO
MINUTES
AGO



IT'S IN AN
AREA WITH
LITTLE
DAMAGE
FROM
EXPLOSIVES.

MAKE
SURE TO
CHECK
THE MAIN
PILLARS
AND
AROUND
THE
TANKS



UH,
OH...

LOOKS LIKE
THE PIG'S GOT
THE BOMB
FUSE IN HIS
MOUTH.

IT
CERTAINLY
LOOKS
THAT WAY.

TAG
THAT
TOP
SECRET,
OKAY?



Strong blue frames around speech text
are a signal that compels recognition.
The intention is apparently to take
some temporary, emergency action,
and then do the real work later...

IF ANY OF THE ANALYTICAL EQUIPMENT IN THE LAB SURVIVED, WE CAN USE IT TO CHECK THE CARCASSES. IF NOT, WE'LL HAVE TO REMOVE WHAT'S LEFT OF IT ANYWAY

JUST "ACQUIRED" FROM THE LOCAL MILITARY

WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, CAN YOU GET A SAMPLE FROM THE PIG'S BRAIN?

THE CEBOTS WE'VE GOT ON SITE WON'T BE ABLE TO CUT OPEN THE SKULL.

WE MIGHT NOT LUCK OUT, BUT WHY NOT JUST SEARCH FOR A PIG WITH AN EXPOSED BRAIN...?

YES, GOOD IDEA

I ERASED THE INFORMATION WHEN WE EVACUATED, BUT I INTEND TO PULVERIZE EVERYTHING WITH SATELLITE BOMBING BEFORE THE LOCAL POLICE ARRIVE AND START LOOTING

I'LL DOWNLOAD THE BOMBING SCHEDULE SO YOU CAN GET OUT SAFELY.

AREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT THE WASTE PROCESSING YARD CONTAMINATING THE SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT?

CHECK OUT PAGE ECO-0187 OF THE ASSESSMENT DONE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION PLANS. IT'S WITHIN LIMITS

THAT'S IT, THEN

ROGER

LOOKS LIKE THE
BASTARDS FROM
THE HLF DIDN'T
EVEN TOUCH THE
LITTLE DEVICE WE
PLANTED FOR
THEM

SO THE GOAL
OF THE ATTACK
WAS PURE
DESTRUCTION,
NOT LOOTING

MA AM? FROM
SURVEILLANCE CAM
IMAGES WE RETRIEVED,
WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO
IDENTIFY SOMEONE
WHO APPEARS TO BE
THE LEADER

GOOD
WORK,
BOYS!

LIM... WE
COULD DO
EVEN
BETTER
WORK IF
YOU'D
INCREASE
OUR
MEMORY
BANKS.

LATER, I'M
BUSY RIGHT
NOW

THEY'RE
SELLING
SIGNAL-EMITTING
MODULES AT
THE F-BEAN
FOOD HUT!
WATERBURY
FOR ONLY
FIVE TP!

LOOKING AT
THE
DETONATION
CONNECTIONS
MUST'VE
BEEN A MIX
OF RING AND
PARALLEL
DESIGNS ...

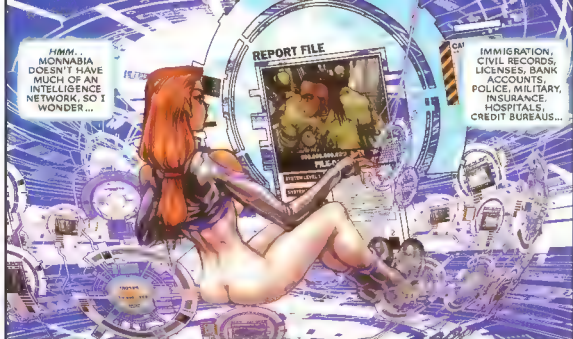
SO THIS IS THE
LEADER... SHE'S
SPOTTED THE
SURVEILLANCE
CAMERA...
HMM!

NO ATTEMPT
AT IMAGE
MANIPULATION
SO SHE
KNOWS WHAT
WE'RE DOING
AND IS
TRYING TO
LEAD US ON.

CAUTION!
ON PROTECTIO

JRT FILE

POWER LEVEL 1
SYSTEM LEVEL 2
SYSTEM LEVEL 3
SYSTEM LEVEL 4



HMM...
MONNABIA
DOESN'T HAVE
MUCH OF AN
INTELLIGENCE
NETWORK, SO I
WONDER...

REPORT FILE

IMMIGRATION,
CIVIL RECORDS,
LICENSES, BANK
ACCOUNTS,
POLICE, MILITARY,
INSURANCE,
HOSPITALS,
CREDIT BUREAUS...

OKAY, HERE'S
A CANDIDATE...
WITH AN AI
SUPPORT
SYSTEM TOO
GOOD TO BE
FREE MARKET

JUST WHAT
I'M LOOKING
FOR.

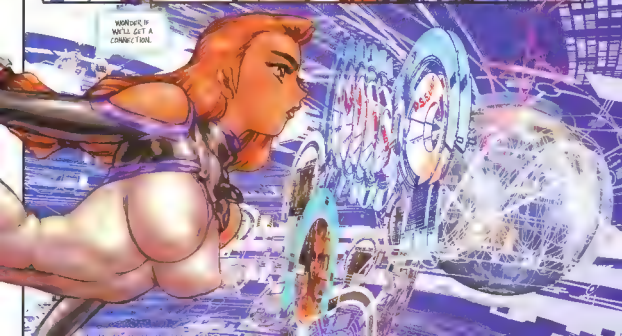
OKAY, WE'LL
START WITH
HER
INITIALIZATION
SETTINGS AT
THE E-BRAIN
CO-OP.

STAND BY
WITH FOUR
DECOYS, PLUS
C42 ANTI-
PROBE AND
C41 ANTI-
INTERCEPT
DEVICES

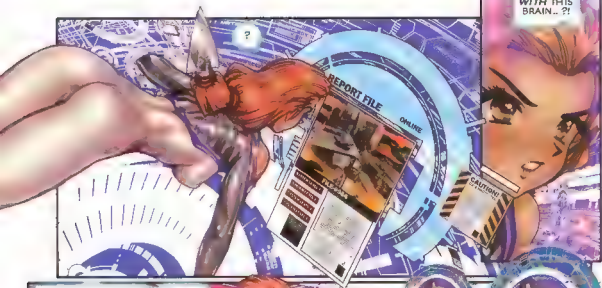
LOCKING
IN VPN
TUNNEL
ON SAT-12



WONDER IF
WE'LL GET A
CONNECTION.



WHAT'S
WITH THIS
BRAIN... ?!



DRUGS ALL OVER
THE PLACE...
CAN'T FIND A LINK
TO THE E-BRAIN
ACTIVITY.

IT'S A
DRUG
MAZE!

GOOD
THING
DIDN'T
GIVE IN
DEEP

NOW ANALYZING
BRAIN ACTIVITY...
ALKALOIDS SEEM TO
BE PRESENT... CENTRAL
NERVOUS SYSTEM
EXCITED... FIRST ORDER
GUESS IS IBOGAINE

REVERSE TRACE
DETECTED!
GETTING
RESPONSE FROM
SCANNING ROUTE
8, SAT-12!

RESPONSE
FROM
SCANNING
SAT-11 ...

IDENTIFYING
ORIGIN OF
SIGNAL...



IBOGAINE: Name of psychedelic substance derived from the roots of the iboga plant from Central West Africa. Not particularly effective in e-brain wars, but maybe just easy for these folks to obtain locally.



GOT A
RESPONSE
FROM
SCANNING
SAT-7.
SWITCHING TO
ROUTE C.

CONFIRMING
TARGET
COORDINATES.

GETTING
SCAN
RESPONSE
FROM
ROUTE C,
SAT-12!!

PRETTY FAST
FOR AUTO!
PLUG IN A
MAZE ON
ROUTE C, SAT-6
TO GAIN TIME.



CAN'T BELIEVE
THERE'S NO
RESTRAINING
MECHANISM!

ALL BARRIERS
PENETRATED...
INJECTING
VIRUS INTO
CORE
PROCESSES...

COPYING
PERIPHERAL
MEMORY TO
DECOY 4...



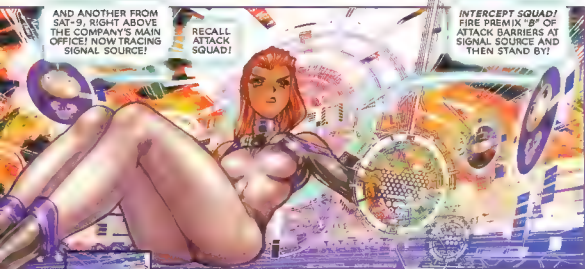
OKAY--
PULL ALL
CONNECTION
TRACES OUT
OF ENEMY
HARDWARE!

CONFIRMING
INCREASE IN
DRUGS
DETECTED...
YOW!

HOW COULD
THEY DO A
REVERSE
PROBE UNDER
THESE
CONDITIONS?!

WONDER IF WE
COULD USE THE
ORGANIZATION'S
DIRECTORY AND
JUMP TO
SOMEONE
ELSE'S BRAIN...?

WE HAVE
A SCAN
RESPONSE
FROM
ROUTE C,
SAT-8



There really aren't any "data disks" like these floating in physical space. To Motoko's eyes (e-brain), it just "looks" like they are. Also, the reason her mouth isn't moving is because the conversations are all taking place at the e-brain level. In terms of timing, the enemy intervened with the satellite above the company's headquarters too soon (they should have intervened when the girl was convulsing under the neurotoxic effect of the hyperdose of Ilogaine), but that's because Motoko's neural drug strategy was more effective than they expected.

SEND MAIL
TO
ANDREW IN
ENGLAND.

TELL HIM WE
MAY HAVE
FOUND THE
HLF'S
WEAPONS
DEPOT, AND
ATTACH THIS
IMAGE FILE
WITH
COORDINATES.

WE'LL
NEED AN
INDEPENDENT
ANALYSIS
DONE ON
THE VIRUS
SAMPLE.

THIS IS THE
FIRST TIME THE
M-STRASS'S
NEURAL DRUG
SIDE BUSINESS
HAS BEEN
USEFUL IN
COMBAT, ISN'T
IT?

REPORT FILE

VR FILE
LEVEL
SY
IL 2

SO...THE GIRL
APPEARS TO
HAVE BEEN A
DECOY. AH,
AND THERE'S
AN OVERLAP
IN HER
MEMORY...!

IT LOOKS LIKE
SOMEONE AT SOME
POINT IN TIME INTER-
LEAVED MILITARY
EXPERIENCE AND
INTELLIGENCE DATA
INTO HER MEMORY
AND THEN HOOKED
HER UP WITH THE
HLF. OR MAYBE
SHE HAD ELEMENTS
OF IT FROM THE
BEGINNING...

ENEMY HAS
ENTERED
MAZE G8,
FOLLOWING
THE LINE'S
USAGE LOG.

BLOCK 8 OF
ATTACK
BARRIER HAS
BEEN
NEUTRALIZED

NOT
EXACTLY
TIMID,
ARE
THEY...?

WHAT'S
THE STATUS
ON THE
VIRUS
ANALYSIS?!

CURRENTLY
THEY'RE GOING
AFTER EACH
OTHER
FOURTEEN TYPES
NEUTRALIZED,
TWO IN
EVOLUTION, ONE
UNIDENTIFIED

The commander's past-memory file looks like a family picture album because for every memory unit written into her hard e-brain there's also a title and a preview file available for quick scanning.

"UNIDENTIFIED"...?

AT FIRST
GLANCE IT
APPEARS TO BE
INACTIVE AND
UNRESPONSIVE...
MAYBE A
DECOY?

USE THE
CONNECTORS
TO PREDICT THE
IDENTITY OF
THE PARTY
RESPONDING.
THESE THINGS
ARE USUALLY
COMBINATIONS OF
VARIOUS PARTS.

YOU'VE
GOTTA
USE YOUR
HEAD...!

OH...
YEAH!

CALL
FROM
SECRETARY
GRACE,
MISTRESS.

MR. ANTARES,
THE SPECIAL
COUNSEL
TO THE
PRESIDENT,
IS HERE,
MS. ARAMAKI.

I'M IN THE
MIDDLE OF
COMBAT WITH
SOME E-THUGS
RIGHT NOW, SO
PLEASE TELL
HIM POLITELY
THAT I CAN'T
MEET WITH HIM
UNLESS IT'S AN
EMERGENCY.

ALSO, WE'VE
RECEIVED A
COMPLAINT
FROM MR.
LEBRIS, ON
PAPER MEDIA.
IT'S NEARLY A
QUARTER-INCH
THICK, BUT
WE'RE
DIGITIZING IT
RIGHT NOW.

I SEE.
UNDER-
STOOD

AND, UM...
MOTOKO...?

GUY
NEVER
DOES
SEARCH

KCH

I HATE TO
ASK YOU
THIS NOW,
BUT...CAN I
TAKE SOME
TIME OFF?

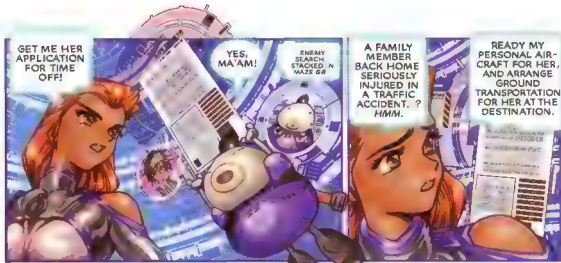
WHAT...?

WE HAVE A
HIT SIGN ON
THE BLOCK 4
OF THE
ATTACK
BARRIERS AND
WE'VE LOST
THE
CONNECTION

TIME OFF,
GRACE?
SURE, BUT
I'M
SURPRISED.

HOLD OFF
ON
SEALING
THAT LOG!

The image of Grace the secretary indicates she's "online," but she's really not, technically. She's just connected via a desktop computer to the independent terminals in Motoko's subordinates; they indirectly see the images and transmit them to Motoko's brain via their own e-brains.



GET ME HER APPLICATION FOR TIME OFF!

YES, MA'AM!

ENERGY SEARCH STACKED IN MAZE 6B

A FAMILY MEMBER BACK HOME SERIOUSLY INJURED IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT. ?
HMM.

READY MY PERSONAL AIRCRAFT FOR HER, AND ARRANGE GROUND TRANSPORTATION FOR HER AT THE DESTINATION.



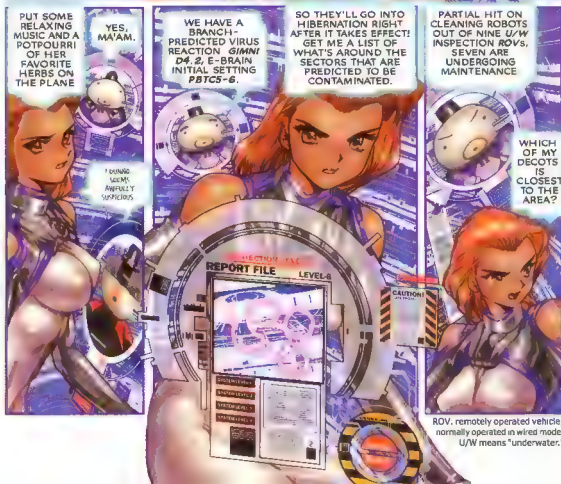
IS THIS ANOTHER TRICK?

AN ATTEMPT TO LURE YOU INTO SOMETHING LEWD...?

NO.

THE INFORMATION'S FORGED, AND THERE'S A POSSIBILITY OF TERRORISM DIRECTED AT ME. **VECTOR!** I WANT YOU TO ACCOMPANY AND GUARD HER. **XENON!** BACK THEM UP!

HOORAY! A TRIP!



PUT SOME RELAXING MUSIC AND A POTPOURRI OF HER FAVORITE HERBS ON THE PLANE

YES, MA'AM.

WE HAVE A BRANCH-PREDICTED VIRUS REACTION **GIMMI D4.2, E-BRAIN INITIAL SETTING PBTC5-6.**

SO THEY'LL GO INTO HIBERNATION RIGHT AFTER IT TAKES EFFECT! GET ME A LIST OF WHAT'S AROUND THE SECTORS THAT ARE PREDICTED TO BE CONTAMINATED.

PARTIAL HIT ON CLEANING ROBOTS OUT OF NINE U/W INSPECTION ROVS, SEVEN ARE UNDERGOING MAINTENANCE

WHICH OF MY DECOTS IS CLOSEST TO THE AREA?

REPORT FILE LEVEL-6

CAUTION! HIGH VOLTAGE

ROV. remotely operated vehicle, normally operated in wired mode
U/W means "underwater."

REPORT
E-DAMAGE TO
SECURITY, AND
MAKE SURE
WE'VE GOT ONE
OF THOSE ROVS
NAILED

YES,
MAAM!

DECOT
CLARICE IS
ACTIVATED
WITH
SYSTEM 8...

ALL
SUB-SPECIES
FROM BLOCK
4 DEPLOYED
ON DEFENSE
LINE...!

SET UP A STEALTH
COMBO VIRUS IN
BLOCK 6--ONE THAT
USES ANY FOUR
ANTIBODIES FROM
BLOCKS 1 TO 4.

THEN
ESTABLISH
A DEFENSE
LINE
THERE.

??... EVEN
THOUGH
WE'VE GOT
A HIT ON
BLOCK 4?

DON'T BE
SO NATIVE!
THINGS
CHANGED!

SHOULD WE
COLLECT THE
ONES WE'VE
ALREADY
DEPLOYED...?

NO, NO! JUST
CONTINUE
PRETENDING
YOU'VE BEEN
TRICKED...!

FDD

MAIL BACK
FROM
ANDREW IN
ENGLAND,
CHECKED
AND
CLEARED.

THREE TRACE
BUOYS
ELIMINATED.

HAS A
HARD TIME
BEING
HONEST
ABOUT
THE JOY
HE FEELS,
DOESN'T
HE...?

AREN'T YOU
GOING TO LEAVE
THE INSPECTION
ROV WITH THE
SECURITY
DEPARTMENT?

REPORT FILE

We've also been observing the Murakami case. There was a plan to change into the arms depot with K's armored suits, but we didn't have enough inside information. We re-evaluated our plans. As I believe you are a friend of our nation, the soldiers will not die in vain, although the intelligence officers may hate you. See you later.
An unavoidable comrade.

ACTIVATE
ALL C-CLASS
MAZES IN
CENTRAL
INFORMATION
CONTROL
AGENCY!

SET
SEQUENTIAL
F-4 MAZES
ON ALL
TERMINALS
WITHIN
TWENTY
METERS
OF THE
INSPECTION
ROVS!

A REAL
EMERGENCY
EH?

"Stealth Combo" virus: When an opponent uses antibodies to neutralize an attack barrier, they can be treated as components, combined, and then activated as a virus. Used alone they're harmless, and normally very tiny, with reproduction held to a minimum. As a result, it may be more accurate to describe them as prions—program fragments with "virus-like" traits.



TELL THE PRESIDENT
I CAN'T
ATTEND THE
MEETING

UPLOADING
U/W SONAR
SAMPLE...
VERY HIGH
RETURN!
HIGH
PROBABILITY
WE'LL BE
ABLE TO ID
THEM SOON.

THE
UNDERWATER
INSPECTION
BOYS YOU'RE
AFTER HAVE
PASSED
WITHIN FIFTY
METERS.

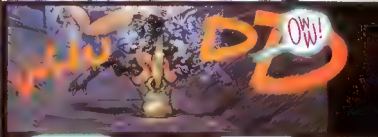
THERE!

GOODNESS...
THEY'RE
AWFULLY
FAST...

PLASTIC FILE LEVEL 3

SHHHHHH

When moving among buildings in urban areas, Motoko normally doesn't run along the edge of their roofs, because she can easily be spotted from the street. Poseidon's structures seem to be stone, but they're really made of a type of plastic, so she's actually running along the edges for safety reasons (also, if she fell through the roof she'd lose time). This time she's not really worried about being spotted from the street. She is worried about being observed by satellite, however ..



Clarice is a decot, so compared to Motoko's body (which is made of titanium and carbon nanotube materials), Clarice's is extremely lightweight...but nonetheless considerably heavier than a human's, so she's not very well-suited for swimming. Motoko regrets not having had her land spread-eagled, so the water resistance would have slowed her down better.



Decots don't really breathe. There are bubbles coming out of Clarice's mouth because there was some air left in her body and it's leaking out.

ER...YOUR CLOTHES ARE CREATING TOO MUCH RESISTANCE. FOR MAXIMUM UNDERWATER SPEED, YOU OUGHT TO GET RID OF THEM

YOU WISH

THE EASIEST THING IS JUST TO FOLLOW THE PIPE

IGNORE THE Y AND, OF COURSE IT'S FASTER TO MOVE ON LAND

THIS IS TAKING ME TO THE BIO ZONE.

HOW MANY MINUTES UNTIL I CATCH UP?

APPROXIMATELY SEVEN MINUTES IN A STRAIGHT LINE BUT SINCE WE DON'T KNOW WHAT SORT OF COURSE THE TARGET HAS SELECTED, I'M ADDING A TWO-MINUTE BUFFER

I'M LINKING WITH THE PHYSICAL MAP OF THE COM-CABLE NETWORK. GO AHEAD AND ISSUE AN INFO EVAC ORDER FOR THE BIO-ZONE

HMM...THE INFO BARRIERS ARE REALLY HARDENED, SO I WONDER IF THEY'RE PLANNING TO PHYSICALLY JUMP OVER.?

DO THEY THINK THE SYSTEMS THAT FRAGILE INTERNALLY? I DOUBT IT... THEY MOVE LIKE THEY'VE CHECKED THINGS OUT PRETTY WELL BEFORE COMING HERE





WE'RE AT
THE LINE
ENTERING
THE
JUNCTION...

I'M
GOING
IN.

I'M SENDING
MY SENSORY
SIGNALS, SO
COME UP WITH
SOME WAY TO
TRACK THEM



YOU WANT A
REFLECTIVE
CALCULATION?
IT'LL BURN
BETTER!

LOOKS LIKE
THEY'RE
CONNECTING
DIRECTLY TO
THE CABLE...

SUPERIN-
TENDENT
LEBRIS!



AH...? ER.
IF YOU HAVE
A PROBLEM,
YOU'LL JUST
HAVE TO
CONTACT MY
SECRETARY--

SEPARATE
BUSINESS!
THERE'S AN ACT
OF INFOTERROR
BEING CARRIED
OUT RIGHT
BELOW YOUR
FACILITY. JUST
WANTED TO LET
YOU KNOW



UH
OH--YOU
JUST
WASTED
THREE
STROKES--



DAMN...
THIS
THING IS
GETTING
IN THE
WAY

Of course, there's no need for a "remotely controlled humanoid terminal"
to carry out this mission, but let's just say Lebris is doing it OUT OF HAND.



GOT A
CONTROL
REPORT ON THE
ROV YET?

JUST
GETTING A
REGULAR
CONTROL
PANEL.

DOING REVERSE
PROBE FOR THE LINE
THAT ACCESSES THE
CONTROL PANEL...
THREE RELAYS AND
THREE SATELLITES
IDENTIFIED SO FAR

OKAY
JUST
STAND BY
AS IS.

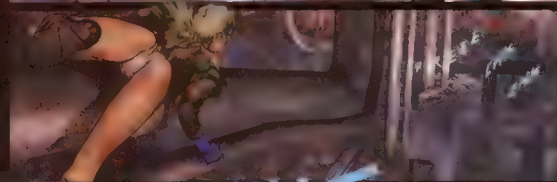
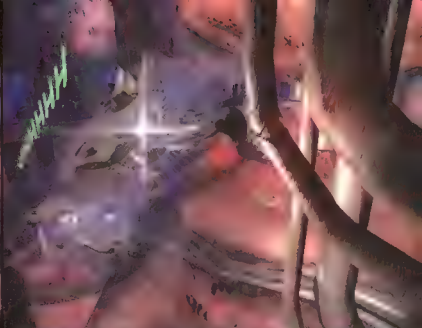
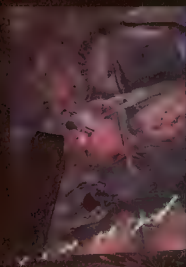
LOOKS LIKE
THEY'RE NOT
JUST USING
VIRUSES. I'M
SENDING YOU A
LIVE REPORT

NAVY DIVISION SUBMARINE GUARD SHIPS, SLAVE-38 AND 40, HAVE
COMMENCED PAVES, ESTIMATED TIME TO CLARICE'S COORDINATES, BETWEEN 5-14
MINUTES AND 1-25 MINUTES. NOW ELECTRONICALLY INJECTING STEALTH VIRUSES,
AS WITH U/W WORK ROVS. TEN SECONDS TO OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS.

TARGETS ARE
DECELERATING

THIS IS THE SAME AREA
WHERE WE SANK THE
PIRATES THIS MORNING,
MISTRESS. AND THERE'S
BEEN A REPORT ON A CRACK
IN A DATA PIPE HERE.

I DON'T
LIKE THE
SOUND
OF
THIS....



WE CAN ONLY GET A RELIABLE TRACE TO THE SATELLITE WE RELAY THROUGH. THAT'S FACTORING IN ERRORS IN AREAS WHERE RECEPTION'S POSSIBLE.

THAT INCLUDES THE BORDER REGIONS OF GAVEL AND MONNABIA

MAYBE IT'S UNDER HERE... WONDER IF THERE'S A RELAY...?

DECRYPT COPIES OF THE "PANDORA 9" AND "TRASH BOX BOMB" VIRUSES.

I WANT YOU TO YANK THE HEADERS, SHRED THE PAYLOAD, AND MIX THEM INTO THE DAMAGED ROV REPORT!

HARDWARE'S SIMILAR, SO IT SHOULD BE HARD TO DETECT ANY TIME DIFFERENCE

IF THE READ-IN ERROR REPORTS ARE MERGED, WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO GET A GREAT HIT RATIO 'CAUSE THEY'LL BE ACTIVATED NO MATTER WHAT

OF COURSE IF IT ACTUALLY WORKS, WE'LL REALLY BE LUCKY

IF IT DOESN'T WORK WE SHOULD HAVE A HIT REPORT THAT'S NORMALLY NOT GENERATED COME BACK WITH THE TRICK BUILT IN.

IF THERE'S NOTHING, THAT'S IT. WE'LL JUST TEST THE VIRUSES, AND SECURITY WILL RETRIEVE THE ROV.

ER... LOOKS LIKE THE VIRUSES RELEASED BY THE ROVS HIT.

WHAT?!

THEY HADN'T EVACUATED ALREADY...?!
LEBRIS!!

FIRE HIM!
FIRE HIM!



DAMAGE
STATUS..?

LOW
CAPABILITY
TO
INFECT.
uh oh!

ONLINE

LOOKS LIKE
WE'VE GOT A
PROBLEM IN THE
WIRED PATH ON THE
HARDWARE
SIDE.

JUDGING FROM
IMAGES AVAILABLE
FROM THE
WAREHOUSE,
THEY'VE GOT 24
INFECTED CYBORGS
GOING BERSERK.

SEEMS
TO BE
ALMOST
NO EYE-
JACK
IMAGES.

ROBOTS AT
THE VEHICLE
PLANT HAVE
STOPPED
WORKING..

DRAIN VALVE
#255 HAS MAL-
FUNCTIONED..

SCAN
LEBRIS'
E-BRAIN!

ONE
MOMENT,
PLEASE..

UH,
BARRIERS
ARE
OPERATING
EFFECTIVELY,
AND NOT
INFECTED.
DO YOU
WANT TO
INTERVENE
DIRECTLY...?

NO. BRING
E'LAIRCE UP TO
THE SURFACE.
FIND HER THE
SHORTEST PATH
BACK. AND
CLOTHES.

YES,
MA'AM!

GUESS WHAT?
I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR
THAT ORDER!
PRETTY SMART,
HUM?!

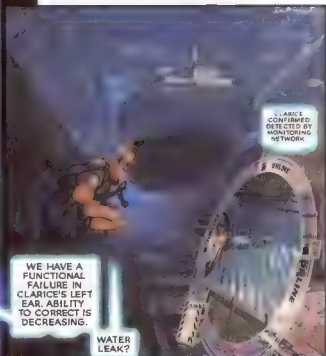
PRETTY
OBVIOUS,
I'D SAY!

AW,
MA'AM!

EYE-JACK This refers to a system of hijacking the vision system of 100 randomly selected Poseidon e-brain workers and collecting information. In the case of workers that had e-brain operations done in Poseidon, "back door" access for Motoko has already been built into their nblar settings and hardware. This is something Motoko incorporated at the design stage (it's one of her jobs). It's a low-cost, low-risk solution compared to doing a brand new e-brain "jack". It's covered under the e-brain ethics law and illegal, of course, but the chances of Motoko being discovered are nearly zero.



NOW
INJECTING
ANTIBODIES
INTO
CYBORGS
AND THE
VEHICLE
PLANT
ROBOTICS



CLARICE
CONFIRMED
DETECTED BY
MONITORING
NETWORK

WE HAVE A
FUNCTIONAL
FAILURE IN
CLARICE'S LEFT
EAR. ABILITY TO
CORRECT IS
DECREASING.

WATER
LEAK?



WATER
PROBLEM
IN INNER
EAR

THEN CLOSE
OFF THE
OUTER EAR.



NO ANTIBODY
EFFECT APPARENT.
CLOSEST CYBORG
TEN METERS TO
THE LEFT

INVESTIGATING
CAUSE

SENDING
SPECIFICS

WANT ME
TO INJECT
VIRUSES...?



NO LEAVE
IT UP TO
SECURITY

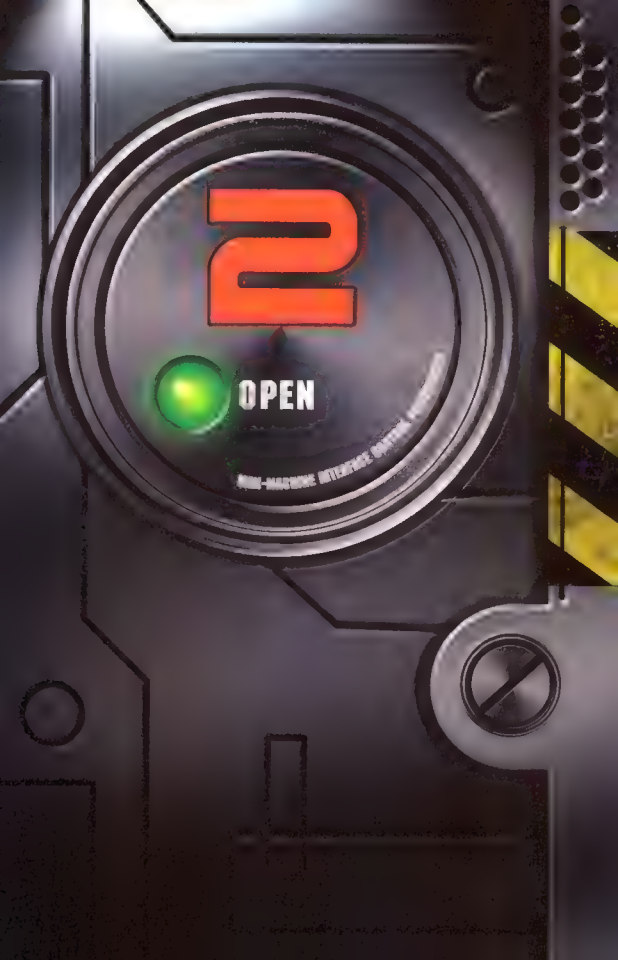
OH, DAMN
HE'S ALREADY
GONE

TO BE CONTINUED...

2

OPEN

MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE SYSTEM



INTERFACE

Send email comments to interface@midwest.com

Send snailmail comments to:

interface
c/o Dark Horse Comics
10956 SE Main St.
Milwaukie OR 97222

"Finally!"

I'm sure many of you produced a more or less similar response to the long-awaited — some might say endlessly-awaited — release of the English-language edition of *Ghost in the Shell 2: Man-Machine Interface*. But think of it on my end (yes, I'm bucking for sympathy). As editor I've been swimming in that pool every day for longer than I can remember, pulling my hair out, offering up incense to any deity who'd listen, hoping against hope that we could get this monster back up and running and working off before it, as we damn well know it would if we could only get it out of the way.

"You know, I almost had to commit suicide just this morning."

— Masamune Shirow

In essence, the history of *Man-Machine Interface* has been a long and winding affair, over a decade passing from its initial serialization in Kodosha's flagship weekly, *Young Magazine*, to its eventual publication over here in the land of hamburgers and *Joe Millionaire*. The original *Ghost in the Shell* had already placed Masamune Shirow among the most innovative, forward-looking, and influential comics creators...well, ever. And we're not just talking about his pervasive influence in graphic fiction — I mean, Shirow's been copied so often and so heavily by so many comics artists that the vast majority of current action/adventure comics should be cutting him in on royalties — but you can hardly look around a shopping mall, watch a few hours of TV, play an electronic game, or go to the movies without seeing Shirow's footprints. And believe me, the more you look for them, the more you'll see them, and the more astonished you'll be at how much of our popular culture has been filtered through and reshaped by the imagination of one guy from Kobe.

But getting back to this *Ghost in the Shell* history business, the original series wound up in its run in *Young* and was then collected way back in 1991. Shirow began work on *Man-Machine Interface* not long after, but serialization appeared sporadically as Shirow's time was drawn off as he created work for art books (some as yet unpublished), animation projects, computer games, commercial illustration, etc. For some reason, Shirow was in demand!

So, sometime in early 1997, the *Man-Machine Interface* serialization finally ended, and the time came to collect the work. But along with the increasing thirst for Shirow's work outside comics, something else had happened over the intervening years between the alpha and omega of *MMI*'s serialization, something that would have a profound impact on the eventual *MMI* of record, not to mention a somewhat more-than-insignificant effect on when said version of record would actually hit the bookshelves of a comics shop near you. That "something" was Shirow's move into the world of digital imaging.

Prior to the Nineties, Shirow's color work had been executed with paints and brushes and the standard creative tools of the day. But by the early Nineties, computer enhancement began to creep in around the edges of Shirow's work — a moken sky here, a fabric texture there — and the race was on. Shirow's fascination with the limitless possibilities available to him became greater as each year passed. Digitally augmented paintings were gradually replaced by nearly pure digital visions, including mind-blowing 3-D modeling. The strength and vitality of Shirow's drawing was still there in spades, but cranked up to an unimagined level of finish, adding a dizzying, almost unsettling reality to what were clearly images of the imagination.

And as the artist's digital prowess shot off the charts, Shirow couldn't help but ponder aspects of his latest masterwork in anticipation of its impending collection. Tune-ups prior to collection releases are a common practice of manga authors, but something a bit more radical was in the offing, a rewriting so complete that it could more correctly be termed *metamorphosis*. The finished product would be as close to "stock" as Dale Jarrett's NASCAR Ford Taurus is to the one year old drives. But nobody, not even Shirow himself, knew exactly where all this was headed when he first began work on the collection.

"As I worked along from day to day, there's almost a point when I had produced enough pages to publish the second book."

- Masamune Shirow

The first *Ghost in the Shell* had a few dozen color pages spread throughout its nearly 350 pages, endemic to the nature in which most manga are serialized, in large black-and-white anthologies with inserted color sections intended primarily for the sale of color ads. Manga with large amounts of color are almost unheard of, mostly limited to volumes of frame-captured adaptations of popular anime features. So when Shirow embarked on the creative journey to re-imagine *Man-Machine Interface*, he was sailing into uncharted waters. No one in Japan had ever done what he was about to do. In fact, one could argue that no author of graphic fiction in any country has. Even Most creators are content to strip the original material between stiff covers and start collecting royalties ASAP, but Shirow had other ideas:

And so, *Man-Machine Interface* ended its serialization. Shirow began a retooling project, and a 1996 release of the collection was announced. Shirow's publisher and fans eagerly anticipated the collection's release, and as marketing began to ramp up, the buzz grew. But then the date for publication passed. A new publication date was set. And passed. Finally, in December of 2000 the jaw-dropping, limited-edition *Solid Box* was released, complete with toy, booklets, poster, and beautiful hardcover editions of both *Koukaku Kidoutai* volumes. And when readers cracked the cover of *Man-Machine Interface*, they were floored: Shirow had added over 150 pages of new material, all rendered in stunning 1:1 digital ink. At long last, Shirow's magnum opus was finished.

Well, almost...

There were still a few tweaks and twists that Shirow had in mind before the final, official release of *MMI*. A year approached. And passed. Websites hummed, message boards growled, industry types experienced stomach pains. What was Shirow doing?

Finally, finally, in June of 2001, the work was delivered. Again, Shirow had done a bit more than just take a last-minute look under the hood and polish a fingerprint off the windshield. Pages had been removed and new pages substituted. Colors and lettering had been readjusted just for the paperback edition, printed smaller and on a different paper than the hardcover. More story notes had been added. And last, but hardly least, Shirow had created an eye-popping twenty-four page epilogue, giving readers' stalled-around brains one more trip through the blender. Now he was done.

Well, with the Japanese edition, anyway...

The time had come to "Westernize" *MMI*. For those unfamiliar with the process, keep in mind that Japanese is read right-to-left, and (for culture-deprived Yanks) that means the back of the book here is the front of the book there, with the panels flowing in reverse to those in the West. Typically, Westernizing isn't all that complex: reverse the pages, plug in the dialogue, and retouch the sound effects. With *Man-Machine Interface*, though, it's an entirely different haligame. One look at the original will show that almost every page has English graphics in floating holographic displays, stenciled on the sides of submarines, printed on signage hanging from chain-link fences. English is everywhere, and straightforward mirror-imaging of the art just wouldn't work, not without leaving tens of thousands of readers in the West turning their heads to the side and getting that look your dog gets sometimes. And retouching this kind of work, from digital files so complex that even an experienced Photoshop gunslinger would break out in a cold sweat, couldn't be left to just anybody.

And so, Shirow had a bit more work to do...

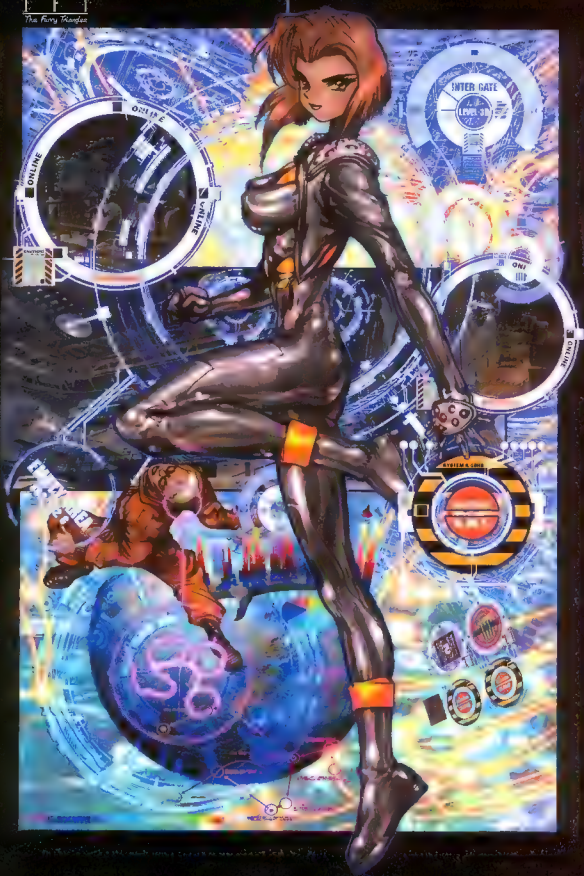
A lot more work, actually, an amount that can only properly be appreciated when comparing the Kodansha collection against the BN comics. In fact, Shirow's level of involvement with the Westernizing of this series is unprecedented, and it isn't as though he doesn't have anything else on his plate. Shirow's commitment is total and uncompromising, and *Man-Machine Interface* is what it is because of that commitment. And all of us get to reap the considerable benefits.

Now, that's worth waiting for, right? I thought so.

"I would also like to thank the people, who have waited for 10 years. Thank you so much."

- Masamune Shirow

Hey, thank you!



MARAMUNE BHIROW



APPLESEED BOOK ONE
ISBN 1-56971-070-4 \$18.95



APPLESEED BOOK TWO
ISBN 1-56971-071-6 \$18.95



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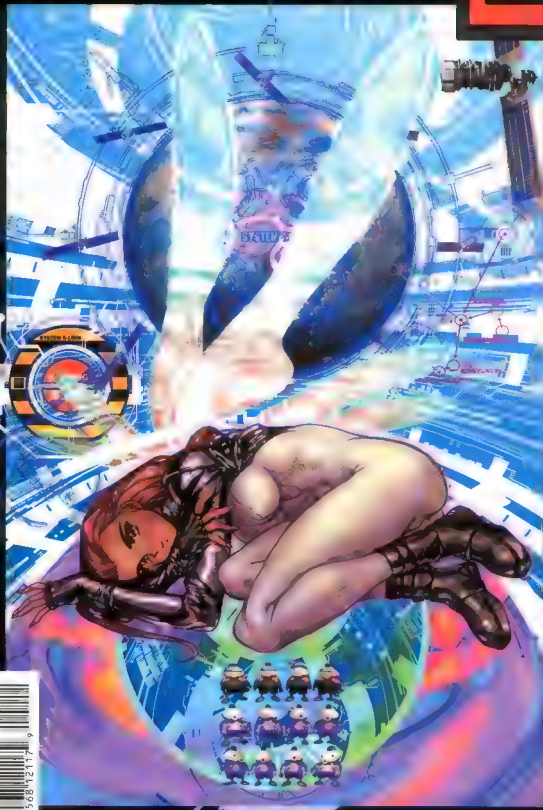
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GHOST IN THE SHELL MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE

2

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MASAMUNE SHIROW

GHOST IN THE SHELL
MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE

攻殻機動隊

ISSUE 1 OF 11

STORY AND ART BY
MASAMUNE SHIROW

TRANSLATION BY
FREDERIK L. SCHOOT AND TOREN SMITH

この物語に登場する
様々な設定や解説や概
念は全て妄想の産物で
あり、現実とは無関係
の娯楽物です。版用を
誤る事無くお楽しみ頂
ければ幸いです。
またのデッチ上げやギミ
ックの「誤用」による任
二次被害には当方責任
を負いかねます点を御
了承願います。

LETTERING BY
TOM ORZECZOWSKI
AND **DAN JACKSON**

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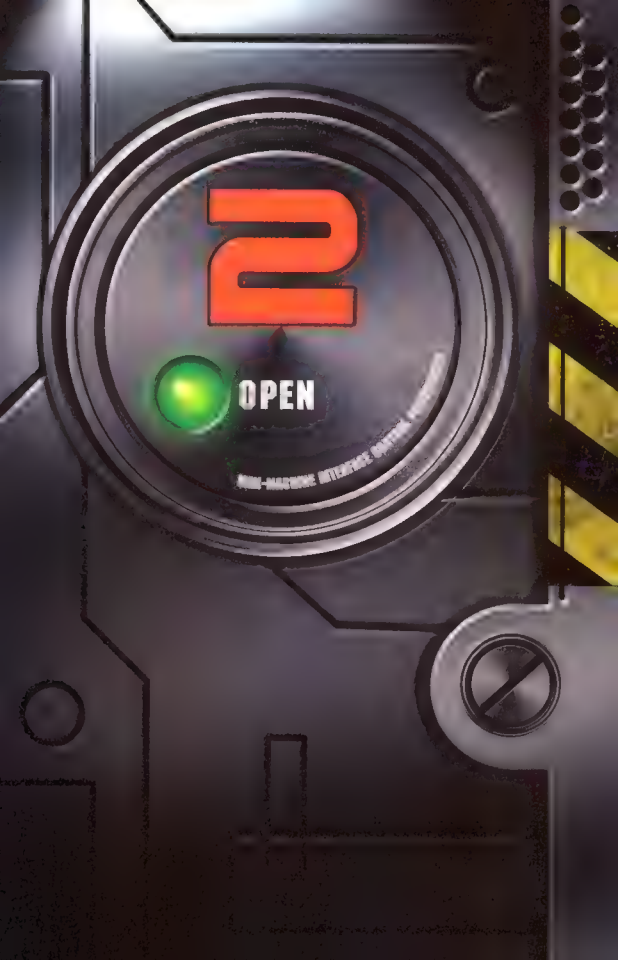
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2

OPEN

MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE SYSTEM



WARNING: READ ME FIRST!

Further, we use National Longitudinal Survey of Youth data to estimate the impact of the new National Technical Training Program on the probability of training during the unemployment period using a Heckman-type two-stage procedure. The results show that the new program has a positive impact on the probability of training during the unemployment period, and that the impact is larger for the unemployed with lower education levels.



the authors have been able to identify a number of factors that are associated with the use of the Internet for health information. These factors include age, education, income, and health status. The authors also found that the use of the Internet for health information is associated with a number of health outcomes, including health status, health behavior, and health care utilization. The authors conclude that the use of the Internet for health information is a promising tool for improving health outcomes, but that more research is needed to identify the factors that are associated with the use of the Internet for health information and to develop interventions to increase the use of the Internet for health information.

APLOGIES AND CORRECTIONS

[illegible]

samune Shirow

100

... ..

I ESTIMATE
SECURITY FORCES
WILL ARRIVE AT
CLARICE'S
COORDINATES IN
258 SECONDS...
PLUS OR
MINUS 20

MAY 2014
 TUESDAY
 10:00 AM
 10:00 AM

HEY, WE'RE DEALING WITH PROSTHETIC BODIES MADE BY OUR OWN COMPANY! WHAT IF YOU INJECT A VIRUS AND IT CAUSES LONG-TERM DAMAGE?

HEH
HEH JUST
THOUGHT I
MIGHT WORK
WE...

APPLY MASKING
TO ANY SATELLITES
ABOVE US WITH VISION
CAPABILITY. CHECK
EXTERNAL ACCESS
TO MONITORING
CAMERAS!











I WANT AN
ANALYSIS
DONE ON
THAT CHAIN!
ESTIMATE
FATIGUE AND
CURRENT
TENSILE
STRENGTH!

YES'IM!

SHOULDN'T
YOU HAVE
CHECKED
BEFORE
USING IT. ?

STOP
BABBLING!
JUST DO THE
ANALYSIS!

WITH HIS R-47
MUSCULATURE,
THE CHAIN'LL
BREAK IF HE YANKS
IT SHARPLY ABOUT
8400 TIMES.

IF HE APPLIES
STEADY
PRESSURE, IT
OUGHT TO
LAST FOR
ABOUT 62,000
HOURS

FORGET IT.
SECURITY'LL BE
HERE IN 245
SECONDS ..PLUS
OR MINUS 20

LET'S JUST
LEAVE IT UP
TO THEM
THEY NEED
WORK TO
DO. TOO

AND...UW I HAVE
THE MANUFACTURING
RECORDS AND TEST
RESULTS HERE TOO.
ANSTRESS

AFTER THE
CONTAMINATION
FROM THE ROV, I
WANT YOU TO
SEARCH AND TRACK
ALL TERMINALS
WITH OUTSIDE
CONNECTIONS IN
THIS SECTOR

ER...ACCORDING
TO OUR RELAY
LOG, THERE ARE
87. CURRENTLY
TESTING.

I'M UNABLE
TO CHECK
UNCONNECTED
BUGS

I KNOW
THAT!

I'VE
TRACKED
DOWN SOME
APPROPRIATE
CLOTHES
IN THE
CONTROL
ROOM

ALL SEND
ONE'S ON THE
WAVE.

OKAY
GOOD

?

ONLY A
JACKET...?

WHAT?
YOU NEED
A THREE-
PIECE SUIT?

DANTE,
YOU JUST
GOT
DEMOTED
TO
CLEAN-UP
CREW!

B-BUT
WHY?

MAYBE I'VE
HAD SOME LATE
PROTECTIVE
CLOTHING?

WELL, HE'D
WANTS TO TRY
WEARING
PANTS.



HANNIBAL!
INFILTRATE
LEBRIS AND SET
HIS CLARICE
RECOGNITION
MASKING TO
DEGREE 8...!

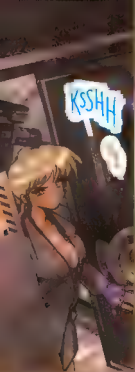
ACTIVATING
NO 2 MASK
ARRAY

I'VE GOT
LEBRIS UNDER
CONTROL DOWN
TO LEVEL 6 SO
FAR HE'S IN
BASEMENT
FOUR, BELOW
SEA-LEVEL

DON'T USE THE
E-BRAIN CORE--
JUST MAKE IT
LOOK LIKE HE'S
CHECKING THE
SYSTEM, AND
STAND BY WITH
EIGHT DECOYS

NO 2 MASK
ARRAY
ACTIVATING

SHAK



KSSH



NO GO
LOOKS
LIKE THE
ENEMY'S
ALREADY
USING
LEBRIS AS
A PAWN.
OR ELSE
HE'S A
VICTIM OF
THE FIRST
ATTACK

PROBABLY
THE LATTER
BUT AT LEAST
WE CAN TRY
AGAIN



STAND BY
TO INJECT
LEBRIS WITH
THE ROV
VIRUS



CAN I
RELEASE THE
BARRIERS,
ETCETERA...?

GO
AHEAD



GET ME A
PROGRESS
REPORT
ON THE
DAMAGE!

WE STILL HAVE NINE
CYBORGS IN THE WARE-
HOUSE AND THE VEHICLE
PLANT TO TAKE CARE OF
THERE'S ALSO TWO NEW
ONES CONTAMINATED
IN ZONE C7242

KEEP UP THE
MONITORING

NO CHANGE IN ENEMY
PROBES IN G8 MAZE
STACK WE ESTIMATE
AN A2 LEVEL OF 3A,
EQUIVALENT TO A
HUMAN WITH EXTREMELY
POOR PROBLEM-
SOLVING SKILLS.

CONTINUE
MONITORING FOR
13 HOURS AFTER
WE BOTTLE UP
THE HARDWARE

AFTER COLLECTING
THE VIRUS TRAPS,
MAG-KILL EM AND
THEN DISPOSE

CONTROL ROOM G2
CLARICE'S EYVIEW

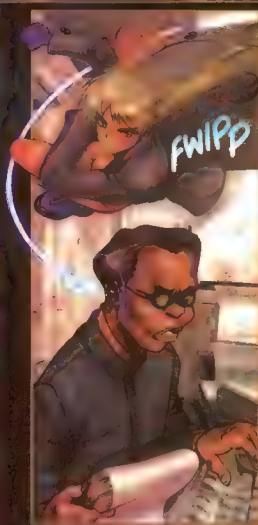
GOTCHA

OH, AND TELL
PERSONNEL TO
CHECK ON THE
WAY THE STAFF
ARE BEING
TREATED.

YES'M!

30
METERS
STRAIGHT
LINE TO
LEBRIS.

STAND BY
WITH F4
DECOYS!
WE'RE
GOING IN
DIRECTLY
AT LEVEL
6!



STANDING
BY
HERE

#4 DECOY
PASSED
ACTIVATION
CHECK

RELEASE
LEBRIS'
BARRIERS!
INJECT THE
ROV VIRUS!

INJECT NO
VIRUS!

INFECTION
COMPLETE
FUNCTIONAL
DISABILITY
WILL OCCUR
IN 12
SECONDS,
STARTING AT
LEVEL 2.

NOW
CONFIRMING
PHYSICAL
DISCONNECT
IN PROSTHETIC
BODY AND
ACTIVATION OF
VIRTUAL BODY
SENSATION

ESTIMATED
TIME TIL
IT HITS
LEVEL 6?

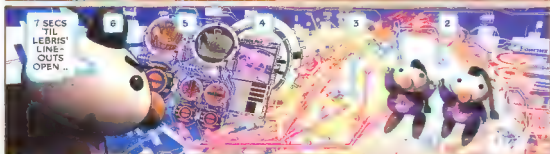
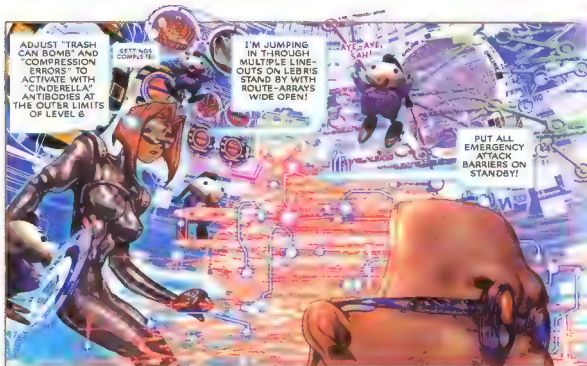
24 SECS

VIRUS

STANDBY WITH D
SET VIRUS ARRAY.
SET QUARTERBACK
TO "CINDERELLA"

AND SET
LEVEL 5
AWARENESS
FIELD!

SETTINGS
COMPLETE





YOU'VE
PASSED
THE SET
POINT!
ENTERING
SATELLITE
NET VIA
GAVEL'S
GROUND
STATIONS!

WE
RE PAWRE
ALARMS
CLOSED

NOW
SEARCHING
FOR
REMAINING

SHIFTING TO
SATELLITE
RELAYS VIA
SAO PAULO
AND TEL AVIV

72 TRAPS
RELEASED
STILL
PROCEEDING

THREE ROUTES
HAVE MERGED
INTO THE
MONNABIA
CABLE
NETWORK

I'VE GOT A RETURN
ON THE HARDWARE
ANALYSIS! IT'S
EITHER THE OUTER
LIMIT OF THE
ENEMY'S BRAIN OR A
MONOGATE-CLASS
NEURO AI

SOMETHING
BOTHERS ME
ABOUT
MONNABIA...

HANNIBAL, TRACE
THE REMAINING
ROUTE AS FAR AS
POSSIBLE! CHUI,
YOU SUPPORT HIM!

YES,
MA'AM!

"CINDERELLA"
ACTIVATION
FINISHED
RECEIVED.

SEARCHING
ENEMY'S
ANTIBODIES

SPLIT UP THE
"ANTIVIRUS
AUTO-UPDATE"
VIRUS AND
RELEASE IT
INTO THREE
LINES!

MA'AM? THE
DATABASE SAYS
THAT VIRUS
CAUSES A
FUNCTIONAL
CONFLICT WITH
"CINDERELLA"...

JUST
DO IT!

WE FIRST TARGET
THE PERIPHERAL
E-BRAIN
HARDWARE AND
LONG-TERM
MEMORY!

ENEMY VIRUS
DETECTION!
AN! BODY'S
WORKING

FUNCTIONAL
CONFLICT IN
INPUT GATE!

RECOVERY
ACTIVITIES
DETECTED!

ESTIMATE
THE ENEMY'S
ACTIVITY
LOG BASED
ON
RESPONSE
TIME AND
BACK!

USE
SHORTEST
ROUTE
POSSIBLE
TO ANCHOR
ATTACK
BARRIERS
ON OTHER
CONFIRMED
GATEWAYS!

ENTERING
LEVEL 2!



ENEMY VIRUS
ANALYSIS
COMPLETE.

IT'S
"PANDORA"
AND "TRASH
CAN BOMB"

MAKE OUR
DECOYS REACT,
BUT DON'T
SHOW THE
ENEMY HOW
WE RESPOND
TO THEIR
DESTRUCTION!

ENEMY
SCAN HAS
REACHED
LEGIS
OUTER
M-FS.

DONEST SEEM TO
INCLUDE ANY OF THE
RECOMBINANT PARTS
OF "PANDORA-9" OR
THE FOUR TYPES OF
SELF-DISASSEMBLING
VIRUSES.

THE ENEMY
KNOWS
WHAT IT'S
DOING IT'S
THE
"RETURNING
ARROW"
TACTIC

JUST TO
BE SURE,
ALLOCATE
10% MORE
EFFORT TO
THE
PERIPHERAL
DEFENSE
LINE.

IF IT
WERE
AN AI...
YES

I'VE
FOUND
THE SYS
ADMIN
SECTOR!

HMM. CPU
PRESSURE
AND BUS
INTERCEPTS
ARE
AWFULLY
LOW.

YOU
THINK
THEY'RE
FAKING
IT?

BUT
WHY...?

WOULDN'T IT
BE FASTER TO
REINFORCE
OUR ATTACK
GROUP?

ENEMY ADDRESS
ANCHORED! WE'VE
SUPPRESSED THE
WIRELESS ROUTES
IT'S POSSIBLE TO
AVOID PHYSICALLY
DISCONNECTING
WIRE LINES!

DO BRANCH
CHECKS AND
HARDWARE
ESTIMATES
ONE MORE
TIME!

ENTERING
LEVEL 2

Wire lines may seem an odd concept in the e-brain era. Yet for relay equipment (and surrogate devices where physical disconnects and powering off by pulling the plug are possible), there are advantages in terms of risk management.



DOUBLE-CHECK THE ARRAYS AND RESPONSE SPEED!

ENEMY ATTACK BARRIER IN ANALYSIS LOG! FEEDING INTO ANALYZER RIGHT NOW--
ACK!!!

LOKI'S IN FREEZE-BLOCK MODE! BLOCK COMPLETE!

TWO DECOYS HAVE LEVEL D DAMAGE!

COPY LOKI IN SHUT-DOWN MODE TO INDEPENDENT HARDWARE, RELOAD THE PRE-OP LOG, AND CONTINUE ANALYZING ENEMY ATTACK BARRIERS!



THERE'S SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT THE ENEMY ADDRESSES... NOT A SINGLE MONNABIA-RELATED BRANCH, NO BANKS, NO REGISTRATIONS...

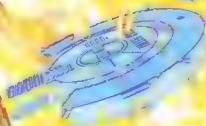
UH OH WE'RE IN LEVEL 5. ENEMY HARDWARE'S CHANGING.

CURRENTLY ANALYZING POSSIBILITY OF VARIOUS VIRUSES AND TRAPS, AND PREPARING RESPONSES



CROSSING GHOST LINE...
LEVEL 6!

RELOADING SYSTEMS



ENEMY ATTACK
BARRIERS
OPERATIONAL!
DAMN--
ACK!

TWO DECOYS
DAMAGED

ENEMY
SCAN HAS
REACHED
LEBIS
SHORT
TERM
MEMORY!

DID YOU
CHANGE
THE
ANTIBODY
VERSION?

V.L.P. TO
CRISK-
478

THEN
SWAP THE
ANALYZER
FOR A GUN
STATION,
AND BRING
IT TO THE
LAUNCH
DOCK

"SOMETHING"
HAS ENTERED
THE LAUNCH
DOCK!

LAUNCH
NOW!

YOU
MEAN...
RESPOND
TO A
"RETURNING
ARROW"
WITH
ANOTHER
"RETURNING
ARROW"...?

YES.
WE'LL
SEE IF
IT'S A
TRAP.

ENEMY
DEFENSE
SYSTEM
PARTIALLY
DESTROYED!

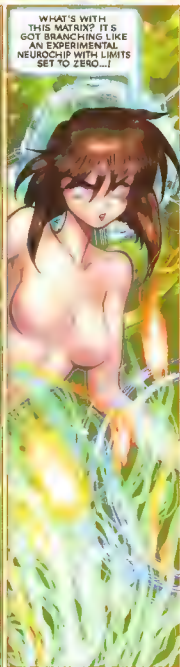
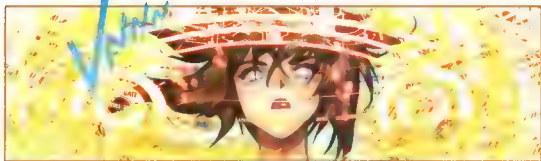
"ANTIVIRUS
AUTO UPDATE"
VIRUS HAS BEEN
RESTORED AND
APPEARS
FUNCTIONAL

ANCHOR IT
TO THE ENEMY'S
GATES! START
WITH A
PERIPHERAL
SEARCH! LEX,
CONTINUE
FIGHTING AS IS.
CONAN, COVER
HIM.

MIX THE
"COPY
BOMB" AND
"TROY"
VIRUSES
TOGETHER
AND
INJECT
THEM INTO
THE GATES!

LEVEL 02


OISEL





ENEMY HAS
INFILTRATED
LEBRIS
LEVEL 5 AND
BEGUN TO
SUPPRESS
PERIPHERAL
RELAYS!

IT'S OKAY...
THAT'S WHY
WE RELAYED
THROUGH
CLARICE. WE
CAN MAKE UP
FOR THREE
RELAYS...



THE 8 SET OF
VIRUS ARRAYS
HAVE BEEN
NEUTRALIZED
RIGHT? IF YOU
CAN, WATCH
THE ENEMY
TRAPS AND
FIGURE OUT
HOW THEY'RE
WORKING!



I'M STILL
BAFFLED
BY THIS
BIZARRE
MEMORY
FIELD

THERE'S AN
AWFUL LOT
OF CAPILLARY
NETSPACE
BRANCHING
HERE, I
WOND--

WOOO!!!



WHAT
WAS
THAT?!



CHANGE IN
ENEMY
HARDWARE!
LOOKS LIKE THEY
CONNECTED
SOMETHING!

LAN: Local Area Network. Not a huge computer network like the Internet, but a limited e-brain space (such as one might find in a corporation or a factory).

NODE: An active connecting point or juncture in a network.





A SEGMENT
OF THE
ENEMY HAS
RANDOMIZED
AND
DISAPPEARED!

A
MIRROR?

ENEMY
SYSTEM
SUPPRESSED
NOW
RECHECKING
FOR MINES,
ETCETERA...



WATCH OUT!
IT'S A MIRROR-
TYPE DECOY!

THIS KIND OF
TRAP IN LEVEL
SIX MEANS
WE'RE DEALING
WITH A BRAIN
THAT'S BEEN
INFECTED BY
E-PARASITES..

STAND BY
FOR
RESULTS
OF
ANALYSIS!



SEARCH FOR ENEMIES AT GATES! THEY'RE ON THE PERIPHERY! RAISE MINE CLEARANCE AND ANTI-IMMUNE FACTORS TO CONDITION BLUE!

HANNIBAL! WHERE'S THAT TRACE REPORT?!

CHUI HERE. HANNIBAL'S FROZEN. ALL DECOYS ARE HEAVILY DAMAGED! WE'RE TRYING TO RESTORE HIM RIGHT NOW...

WE'VE FINISHED SEARCHING EVERYWHERE EXCEPT THE "LOST" AREAS. NO PARASITES DETECTED

CURRENTLY RUNNING FOURTH TEST ITERATION

SO THEY GOT AWAY...?

RUN A THOROUGH SEARCH FOR ANY TRACE OF THE ENEMY AND DO A FULL OMEGA TYPE ANALYSIS ON THIS BRAIN!

THERE'S A MONITORING SYSTEM ON THE LAN THAT THIS BRAIN'S ATTACHED TO.

THEN SUPPRESS IT AND SEARCH ALL BRANCHES!

256 MINES ELIMINATED. NOW RELAYING TO VISUAL FIELD.

ANTI-IMMUNE FACTORS A somewhat confusing term, but when a "ghost" inhabits another's brain as a parasite, it deploys more than antibodies and virus checkers—it also uses viruses and gates to suppress the host's self-awareness and ability to reject foreign data. After the parasite ghost withdraws from its host, it may leave behind traces, which can cause an information immune-system deficiency



SINCE
WHEN DID
MONNABIA
HAVE SUCH
A HUGE
LAN...?

WHAT
TH--?!

THESE ARE
THE DONOR
PIGS IN
MEDITECH'S
PLANT
NUMBER ONE!

MAYBE THE PIGS
HAVE JOINED
FORCES TO
REVOLT AGAINST
MEDITECH?

YOU'VE GOT
QUITE AN
IMAGINATION,
DANTE

OUR COMPANY'S
PIGS AREN'T
SUPPOSED TO
HAVE HUMAN
BRAINS... IT'S
AGAINST
INTERNATIONAL
LAW! GET ME
MANAGEMENT
CHARTS AND A
PIG SCAN
REPORT!

5 NICE WHEN
HAVE WE
CARED ABOUT
INTERNATIONAL
LAW, MISTRESS?

MAKE OFFICIAL
CONTACT WITH
THE PLANT
THROUGH
LEBRIS, AND
SEARCH THE
PERIPHERY OF
THE PLANT FOR
ANY UNUSUAL
WIRES!

YES,
M'A'M!

I'LL USE
THE ROBOTS
IN THE
PLANT

UM... I PUT TOGETHER
THIS GRAPH OF
ORDERS FOR EACH
TYPE OF ORGAN
BEING GROWN NO
HUMAN BRAINS
RECORDED, WITH
100% OF SEARCH
COMPLETED.

THEIR NERVOUS
SYSTEMS SEEM
WELL DEVELOPED,
BUT THEY'RE NOT
FUNCTIONING AS
HUMANS...

BUT THEY ARE
VERY
INTELLIGENT.

UNDER
INTERNATIONAL
LAW THESE
AREN'T HUMAN-
PIGS, BUT PIG-
HUMANS...

SHALL
WE
SNUFF
'EM?

WE'RE UP
AGAINST A
TOUGH ENEMY
HERE WONDER
WHEN IT
INFILTRATED
MEDITECH...?

YOU THINK THE
ENEMY OBTAINED
INFORMATION
ON MONNABIA'S
FUTURE
SCHEDULING
FROM LEBRIS'
BRAIN? WHAT
KIND OF SWEEP
DID THEY DO?

LOOKS LIKE
THEY EXPANDED
IMMEDIATELY FROM
LEVEL 5 AND LIFTED
ALL PERIPHERAL
INFO IN ONE
BEAUTIFUL SWEEP
BUT THEY LEFT
LEBRIS IN GOOD
CONDITION.

AFTER THE
TERROR
ATTACK,
OUR
COMPANY
AND
MONNABIA
MUST HAVE
HAD AN
EMERGENCY
MEETING...

GOOD,
GOOD.



WAIT A SEC... THIS MEANS WE'RE DEALING WITH TWO ENEMIES!

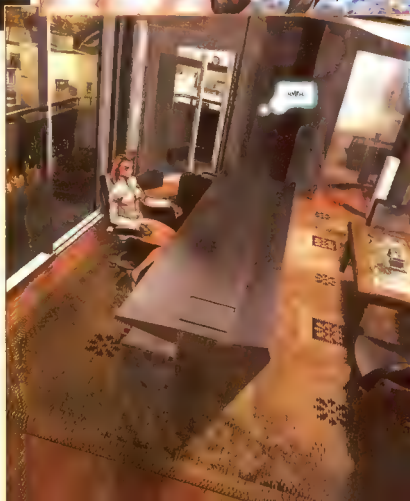
ONE'S TURNED OUR HUMAN-PIGS INTO PIG-HUMANS AND IS USING THE BRAINS THE OTHER'S RAIDED THEM... INTERESTING!

HOW DID THIS HAPPEN, THOUGH?



MAYBE IT'S AN INTERNAL PROBLEM. OR AN ATTEMPT TO COVER ONE UP... HMM.

MISTRESS? WE AUDITED THE GENE DESIGNER GROUP VIA LEBRIS, BUT FOUND NO SIGNIFICANT MOVEMENT, IN EITHER LAID-OFF WORKERS OR E-BRAIN STAFF



SHIVA! RETRIEVE CLARICE, DO A MAG-KILL, RELOAD AND SLEEP!

YES'M! WE'VE GOT A STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS REPORT ALREADY... SHE NEEDS DELTA LEVEL MAINTENANCE DONE.



WHAT IF THE
ENEMY--WITH
GOOD INTENTIONS--
SIMPLY WANTED TO
LET US KNOW IT'S
BEEN USING ILLEGAL
HUMAN BRAIN
COPIES FROM PIGS
DESIGNED TO
MANUFACTURE
HUMAN ORGANS...?

GET ME A
LIST OF ALL
PERSONNEL
INVOLVED
AT THE
GENETIC
DESIGN
STAGE.

ROGER!

AND PUT
TOGETHER A
DATA-HUMINT
REPORT ON ANY
CHANGES IN
THEIR ECONOMIC
SITUATION,
RELATIONSHIPS,
AND
PHILOSOPHIES.

LEON.

ALSO, LET
ME KNOW
WHAT THEIR
DEFENSE
STRATEGY
AGAINST
E-THUGS
WAS AT
THE TIME

RIGHT
AWAY!

CHUI, YOU LOOK FOR
ANY TRACES OF THE
ENEMY, AND ANALYZE
THEM FOR
CROSSLINKS.

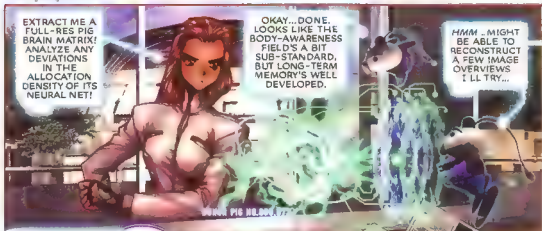
HMM

BUT
WHY
PIGS?

AND NOT
NEURO-
NET ARE?

WHY D
THEY
WANT TO
LINK SO
MANY
HUMAN
BRAINS?

MAYBE
BECAUSE
IT'S
HUMAN?



MARAMUNE BHIROW



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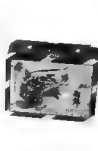
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2

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MASAMUNE SHIROW

GHOST IN THE SHELL
MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE

攻殻機動隊

ISSUE 4 OF 11

STORY AND ART BY
MASAMUNE SHIROW

TRANSLATION BY
FREDERIK L. SCHOOT AND TOREN SMITH

この物語に登場する
様々な設定や解明や懸
念は全て空想の産物で
あり、現実とは無関係
の娯楽物です。誤用を
誤る事無くお楽しみ願
ければ幸いです。
またデッチ上げやギミ
ックの「誤用」による
二次被害には当方責任
を負いかねます点を御
了承願います。

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TOM ORZECZOWSKI
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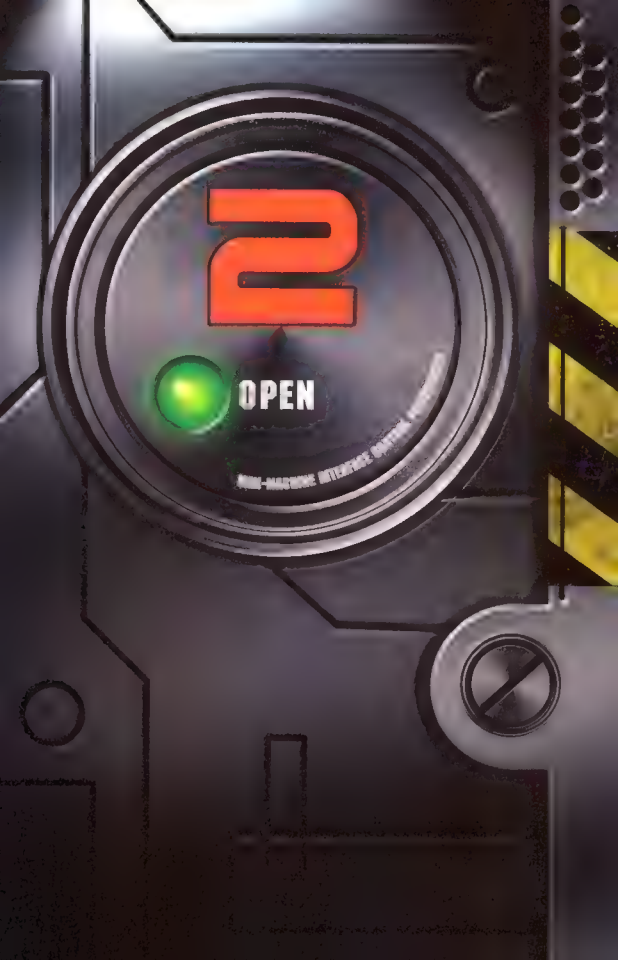
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2

OPEN

MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE SYSTEM



WARNING: READ ME FIRST!

Further, we have not been able to replicate the results of the previous studies. The results of the present study suggest that the relationship between the two variables is not as strong as previously reported. This may be due to the method used in the present study, which was a cross-sectional design. Future research should use a longitudinal design to investigate the relationship between the two variables.

[illegible]

APLOGIES AND CORRECTIONS

[illegible]

samune Shirow

100

1. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.





[[[VIRUS>IMMUNE]<VIRUS]<IMMUNE]<VIRUS]<IMMUNE]]]

POSEIDON INDUSTRIAL, DEPTH: 30 METERS
THIS IS THE INSIDE OF A FLOATING BLOCK BUILT TO
(AT LEAST) OF A SUBMARINE SUPPORT SHIP ALLEGED TO BE OWNED BY
Y. S. MOTOKO'S "SECRET BASE"



SO, MR. REPIANO, YOU'RE
SAYING THAT RELIGION, OR
GOD, ~~ARE~~ ALLOW LIFE-
SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AS
IT RELATES TO BRAINS AND
ENERGY?

IF GOD IS
OMNIPOTENT,
IT'S SIMPLY
A LOGICAL
DECISION

BESIDES,
IN MOST
RELIGIONS,
MEDICINE
HAS AN
ETHICAL
AND
LOGICAL
BASE--

NO! I SAY
WE SHOULD
ABIDE BY THE
PRINCIPLES
OF NATURE

E-BRAINS,
PROSTHETIC
BODIES, AND
ORGAN BANKS
ARE ALL
BLASPHEMOUS!

SO THIS DYING
SHOULD JUST
GO AHEAD
AND DIE?

SO YOU THINK
IT'S MORE
'NATURAL'
~~NOT~~ TO HELP
PEOPLE EVEN IF
WE HAVE THE
TECHNOLOGY
TO DO SO?

LISTEN,
HELPING
PEOPLE
IS AN
ALTRUISTIC
AND
SPIRITUAL
ACT

REPLACING
BODIES THE WAY
YOU WOULD
MANUFACTURED
GOODS IS AN
ENTIRELY
DIFFERENT
MATTER. THE
CALLOS
INCIDENT
TWELVE YEARS
AGO SHOULD
HAVE SERVED AS
A **MORAL LESSON**
FOR US

ACCORDING
TO LAST YEAR'S
STATISTICS, 2.45
MILLION PEOPLE
IN THE WORLD
ARE ALREADY
MORE THAN 10%
ARTIFICIAL

~~NOT~~ ALL
POPULATIONS
ARE GOING TO
RECEIVE MEDICAL
TREATMENT
UNDER IDEAL
CONDITIONS

EACH COUNTRY
HAS ITS OWN
PROBLEMS, AND
THERE ARE LIMITS
TO WHAT MY
COMPANY CAN DO

Hells: Like a fish's gills, Mobako's hair breathes in oxygen underwater. It can expand and contract, with it how air compresses, so it's
very light, compact, and easy to carry. Using optical camouflage principles, its color can also be varied. To a certain degree.



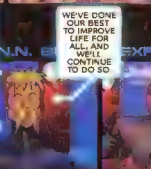
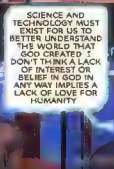
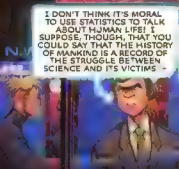
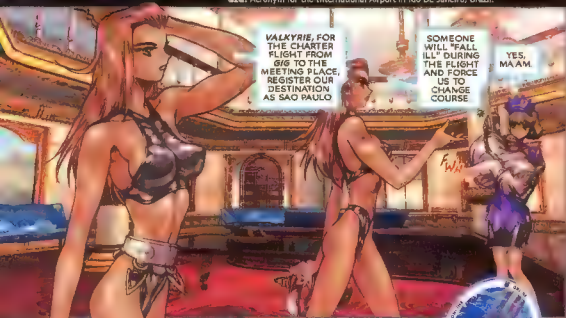
LEKI, COMAN! GUARD
THE NEST. DON'T
FORGET TO DO A
FULL PULSE SWEEP
AND ESTABLISH AN
ELECTRICAL SHIELD
DEFENSE!

ROGER!
WE'LL
PLACE A
FOUR
MESH-AMP
POTENTIAL
ON THE
SEA WATER IN
THE
DOCK

HAHA. I
HAVEN'T
BEEN ON
LAND FOR
A LONG
TIME--
YES, S
TERRIBLE



II: Acronym for the International Airport in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil.





NO, NO!
THAT'S THE
A-SET! PUT
IT BACK!

MAX! LEX! STAY
ON GJARD
WITH B-1 AND
EQUIP IT WITH
A STANDARD
COMBAT BODY.



EXIT IS ZONE C.
BAY NO. 16,
LADIES ROOM...
CLEAR! MAX AND
LEX ARE WAITING
AT THE EXIT.

DECOT
OFFICE ONE
NOW
SWITCHING
TO SLEEP
MODE



CONANI
VALKYRIE! SET
SATELLITE
TIMESHIFT AND
VPN PROTOCOLS
TO SLIGHTLY
BROADER
VALLES



WELL, HAVING A BELIEF IN GOD DOESN'T MEAN YOU
CAN JUST DO ANYTHING. MEDICINE IS SUPPOSED TO
COME FROM THE HEART... THE SOUL! IT'S NOT JUST A
MARKETPLACE FOR TESTING INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS
WE'VE GOT TO USE CARE--COMBINED WITH A SENSE
OF REAL ETHICS-- AND REGULATE THE INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS IN THIS BUSINESS

GENTLE-
MEN,
THANK
YOU
VERY
MUCH

FOR A
TRANSCRIPT
AND FURTHER
DISCUSSION OF
SPECIFIC THEMES,
PLEASE VISIT
OUR WEBSITE

TOMORROW
WE'LL HAVE A
REPORT ON
CYBERDOME
DEPENDENCY
SYNDROME
AND NEURAL
MYASTHENIA



I've always thought that the transforming clothes shown in manga and anime over the years look fake. I've never seen it, but there apparently is already a dress made with a concept like that of Molsolo's. Optical camouflage is common in her world, so it makes sense that there would be clothes that could change pattern, or have exceptional elasticity, or even shape-memory functions, right? After all, Molsolo never knows when she's going to have to fight someone or run for it, so these are highly appreciated features. Now, don't tell me she doesn't have to be wearing a micro-mini, and that her dress could always be much longer and be "highly elastic" instead...!



WELL, THAT WAS A
FRUITFUL MEETING.
I LOOK FORWARD
TO SEEING YOU
AGAIN AT THE
GROUND-BREAKING
CEREMONY.



SIR, WE'VE
SCHEDULED
THE SIGNING
WITH EAST
MONNABIA'S
UNDERSECRETARY
OF COMMERCE IN
THE "PINE ROOM"
FIVE MINUTES
FROM NOW.



THIS
INVOLVES
AN APOLOGY
AND A
COMMITMENT
TO REBUILD
AFTER THE
MEDITECH
ATTACK,
RIGHT?

HMM?



AN
EXAMINER
IS COMING
HERE?!



AN
UNSCHEDULED
VISIT, AT A
TIME LIKE
THIS? WHAT'S
GOING ON?



THERE
WASN'T ANY
EXPLANATION
I'LL GO MEET
THEM



YOU
WANT
ME TO
STALL...?



NO, I'LL
GO

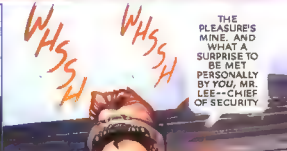
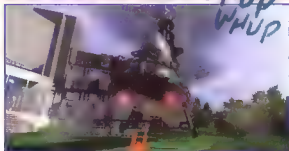


OVERSEE
SECURITY
UNTIL I
COME BACK!
I'LL TAKE
FOUR MEN
WITH ME.

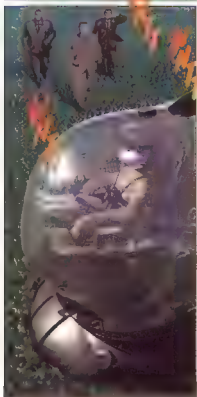


MARIYAMA!
GET ME
CONFIRMATION
FROM HQ WITH
P41 ON THE
DOUBLE!

YES,
SIR!



THE
PLEASURE'S
MINE. AND
WHAT A
SURPRISE TO
BE MET
PERSONALLY
BY YOU, MR.
LEE--CHIEF
OF SECURITY



MOTOKO
ARAMAKI..
WHAT A
SURPRISE
TO SEE YOU
HERE...





YOU SURE
IT'S OKAY TO
LEAVE THE
PRESIDENT'S
SIDE?

SURE, JUST WANTED
TO SEE WHAT THE
NEW CHIEF THEY'VE
BEEN TALKING ABOUT
AT HQ LOOKS LIKE.



WELL, I'M
FLATTERED,
BUT OF
COURSE THE
FACE ISN'T
REALLY
"MINE."



SORRY...
OF
COURSE
NOT.



DON'T WORRY,
IT WON'T
REFLECT
POORLY ON
YOUR
EVALUATION..



... AS LONG
AS I ERASE
WHAT I'VE
ALREADY
CONFIRMED
FROM YOUR
PERSONNEL
FILE



DAMN...
A REAL
TOUGH
BROAD



ANYWAY, I
HOPE I LIVE UP
TO YOUR
EXPECTATIONS.



SO...WHAT KIND OF SECURITY DO YOU HAVE HERE? THIS ISN'T BACKED UP BY A "HARD COPY REQUEST," SO I KNOW THE ANSWER SHOULD BE "I CAN'T REALLY SAY"

TRUE...MAYBE I SHOULDN'T SHOW YOU, BUT THERE'S NO SENSE IN HIDING IT WHEN YOU HAVE ACCESS TO ALL OUR PLANNING FILES

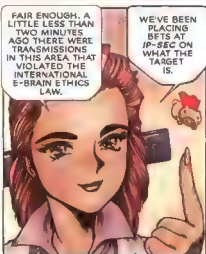


HMM...IT MATCHES THE RESULTS SCANNED FROM THE SECURITY MONITORING NETWORK.

GIVE ME A REPORT ON E-BRAIN ACTIVATION IN THE FACILITIES.



EXCUSE ME, BUT SEEMS LIKE THERE'S A LIMIT TO HOW MUCH WE CAN HELP IF WE CAN'T GET AN ADEQUATE BRIEFING...YES?



FAIR ENOUGH. A LITTLE LESS THAN TWO MINUTES AGO THERE WERE TRANSMISSIONS IN THIS AREA THAT VIOLATED THE INTERNATIONAL E-BRAIN ETHICS LAW.

WE'VE BEEN PLACING BETS AT IP-SEC ON WHAT THE TARGET IS.



SINCE THE SITE OF THE SIGNING'S BEEN PUBLICIZED, WE CAN EVEN PREDICT SOME SORT OF PHYSICAL ATTACK.

HABU, YOU HEAR THAT? SWITCH COMMS TO RETRO MODE

YES, SIR



IT'S A DELAY-TYPE VIRUS, SO THE STAFF WILL ALL HAVE TO MONITOR EACH OTHER CLOSELY.



MAYBE USE AN INTERPRETER OR SECRETARY? SOMEONE CLOSE TO THE VIP... IT'D BE EASY TO INFECT 'EM THROUGH THEIR SPEECH SOFTWARE.

BUT WHAT IF THE VIP'S E-BRAIN WAS DIRECTLY HACKED?

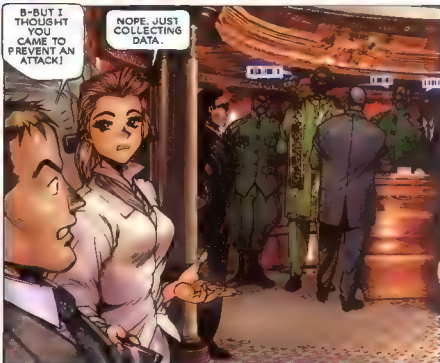
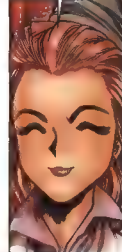
HUH! JUST HAVE TO PRAY THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN, I GUESS.

YOU WOULDN'T BE HERE IF YOU HAD CONFIDENCE IN OUR ATTACK BARRIER... RIGHT?

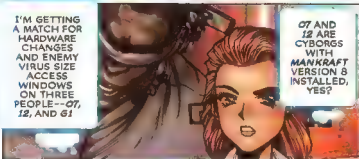
THE RUMORS ABOUT ME HAVE OBVIOUSLY BEEN INCORRECT. I'M JUST HERE TO OBSERVE, THEN I'M OUTTA HERE.

B-BUT I THOUGHT YOU CAME TO PREVENT AN ATTACK!

NOPE. JUST COLLECTING DATA.



Simply scrambling the interpreting could create an interesting disruption. In this case, however, every person's capable of interpreting and they're constantly checking what others are saying, so scrambling one person's speech wouldn't affect the entire meeting. The building's heavily guarded, so just tossing a bomb isn't going to work, either. The only way to disrupt a meeting like this is to plant a saboteur on the inside. Beyond the actual targets, the virus in question here creates lots of collateral casualties on the periphery.



MANKRAFT V8: This famous brand of combat software emphasizes martial arts using simple weapons such as knives, sticks, etc. In this fictional world U.S. army cyborgs officially use it, and apparently the East Monnabia SP do, too. Version 8 onward supports grenade tossing, but there have been an increasing number of physical problems with finger and arm-joint hyperextensions.





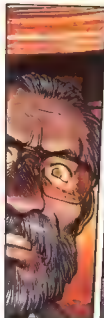
HABU!
THE
PRESIDENT!



ON
IT!!

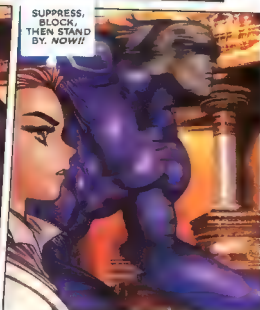


I...I
CAN'T--
STOP?!



GAH

SUPPRESS,
BLOCK,
THEN STAND
BY. NOW!!



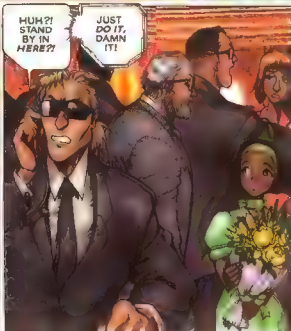
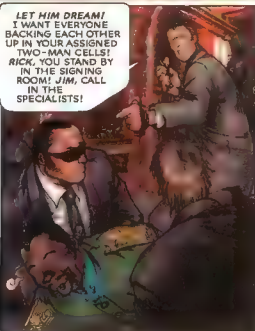


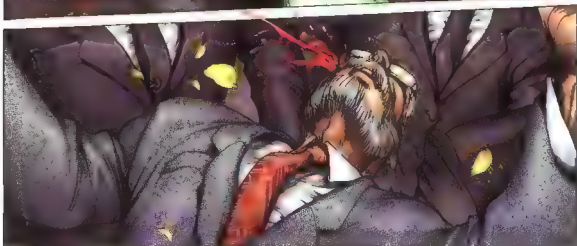
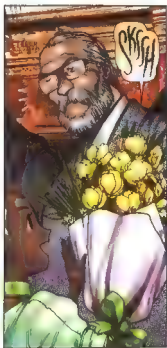


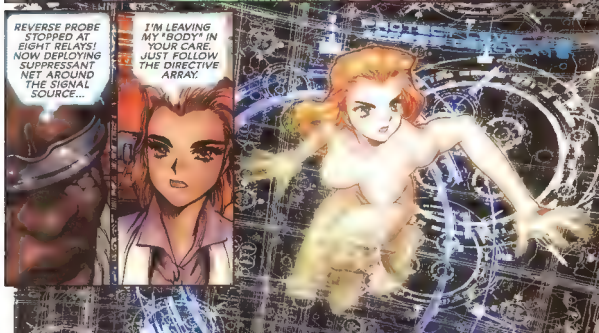
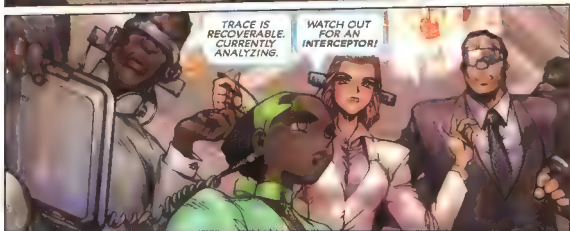
LET HIM DREAM!
I WANT EVERYONE
BACKING EACH OTHER
UP IN YOUR ASSIGNED
TWO-MAN CELLS!
RICK, YOU STAND BY
IN THE SIGNING
ROOM! JIM, CALL
IN THE
SPECIALISTS!

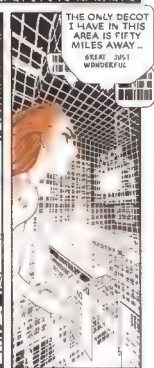
HUH?
STAND
BY IN
HERE?!

JUST
DO IT,
DAMN
IT!





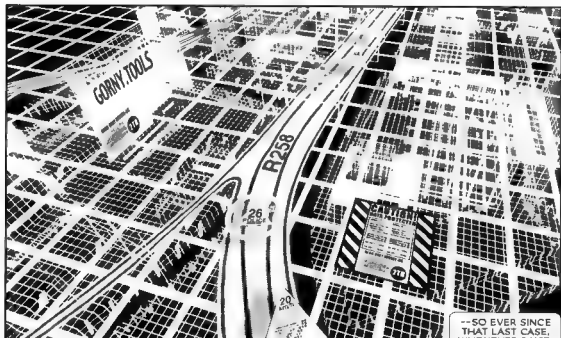




THE ONLY DECOT
I HAVE IN THIS
AREA IS FIFTY
MILES AWAY ...
GREAT JUST
WONDERFUL



HMM...
I NEED
TO FIND A
USABLE BODY
CLOSER TO
THE TARGET
SITE...



--SO EVER SINCE THAT LAST CASE, WHENEVER I USE MY RIGHT ARM TO HOLD MY GUN, IT MALFUNCTIONS.. HEY! YOU LISTENING TO ME?



O.A.E. CAR'S PATROL 104-75 RELEASE REPEAT 3074 TO RELEASE



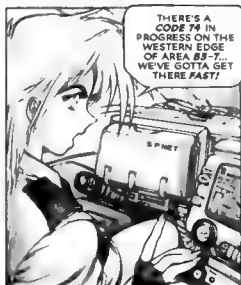
YEAH, YEAH YOU CHECK FOR NEW SOFTWARE PATCHES ?

YOU WANT TO HEAR ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME I TRIED TO UPGRADE MY PROSTHETIC BODY CONTROL SOFTWARE? WHAT A TRAIN WRECK!

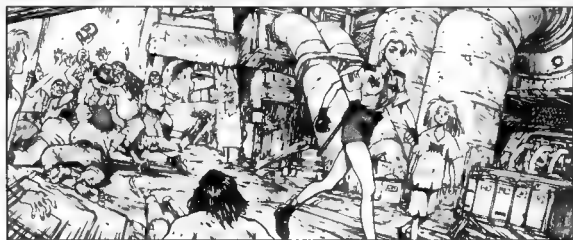
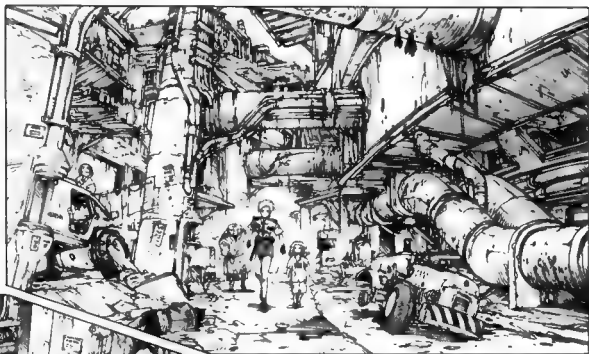
breep breep



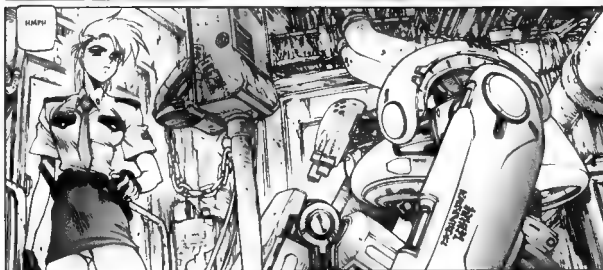
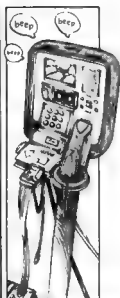


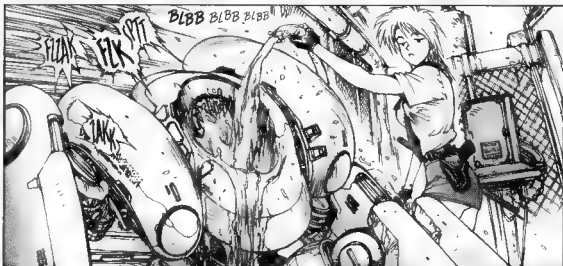


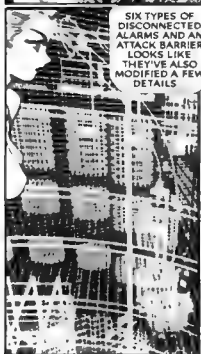
What? No solar panels on the outside of an electric car? You say some even a ready have 'em? Well, I suppose even a "water car" with fuel cells that electronically break down water to gain hydrogen could use them. Hmm, got to give some more thought to the external texturing of my near-future cars...

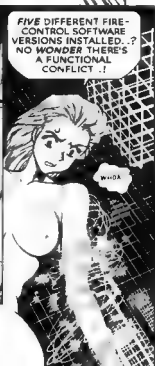


In recent years the media's been talking about a "digital divide," the gap growing between those who can and do use computers and those who can't or won't (ah, you say you know all about this?). But there's another type of digital divide, and that revolves around electronic information, information that has or hasn't been digitized. In this context we've got to be extra careful when people start tossing around terms like "I.T." and watch out for malignant, misleading, and downright false information, not to mention viruses!





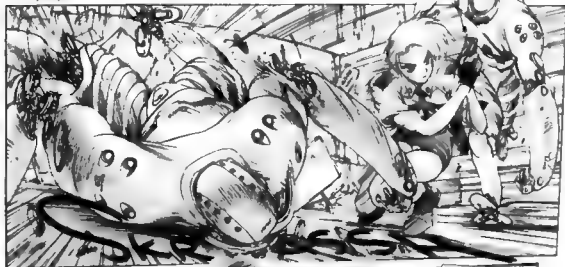


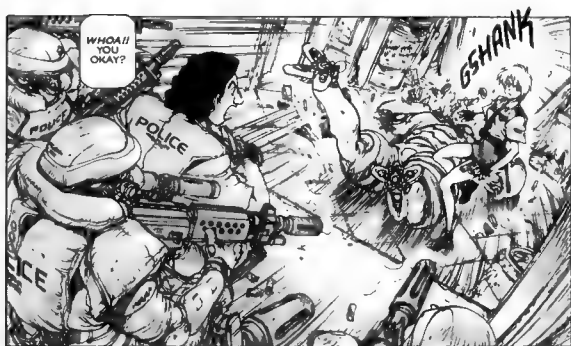


FIVE DIFFERENT FIRE-CONTROL SOFTWARE VERSIONS INSTALLED...? NO WONDER THERE'S A FUNCTIONAL CONFLICT..!









Since this is a comic I couldn't depict the movements right, but the guys (or gals) wearing protector suits feel like they're half-covered in a fungus like "athlete's foot," and their movements feel "hiccupy." VIPs wearing bulletproof vests also have similar problems, apparently

TO BE CONTINUED...!

GHOST IN THE SHELL MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE

2

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MOTOKO KUSANAGI

GHOST IN THE SHELL
MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE

攻殻機動隊

ISSUE 5 OF 11

STORY AND ART BY

MASAMUNE SHIROW

TRANSLATION BY

FREDERIK L. SCHOOT AND TOREN SMITH

この物語に登場する
様々な設定や解説や懸
念は全て著者の意図で
あり、現実とは無関係
の娯楽物です。誤用を
誤る事無くお楽しみ頂
ければ幸いです。

またデッチ上げやギミ
ックの「誤用」による
二次被害には当方責任
を負いかねます点を御
了承願います。

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2

OPEN

MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE SYSTEM

WARNING: READ ME FIRST!

Further, we use National Longitudinal Survey of Youth data to estimate the impact of the new National Technical Institute. The results indicate that attending a technical school during the adolescence increases the probability of attending a 4-year college, but not a 2-year college.



the authors have been able to identify a number of factors that are associated with the use of the Internet for health information. These factors include age, education, income, and health status. The authors also found that the use of the Internet for health information is associated with a number of health outcomes, including health status, health behavior, and health care utilization. The authors conclude that the use of the Internet for health information is a promising tool for improving health outcomes, but that more research is needed to identify the factors that are most important for successful use.

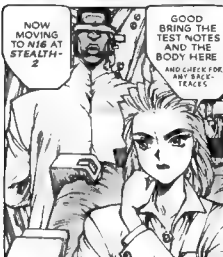
APLOGIES AND CORRECTIONS

In the 1950s, the "Great Plains" region was largely rural and agricultural. The population was small, and the economy was based on farming and ranching. The region was also characterized by its vast, open spaces and harsh weather conditions.

samune Shirow

100

... ..



NOW
MOVING
TO N16 AT
STEALTH-
2

GOOD
BRING THE
TEST NOTES
AND THE
BODY HERE

AND CHECK FOR
ANY BACK-
TRACES



BY THE WAY,
WHO AUTHORIZED
HAVING AN OUT-
SIDER TAG ALONG?

IT'S KATHER
DANGEROUS!

THERE WASN'T
ANY GOOD
REASON TO SAY
NO, THAT'S ALL
DON'T BLAME
HIM



JUDGING FROM
YOUR VOICE, YOU
DON'T SOUND
TOO MAD

DID YOU SCRAWL RUDE
COMMENTS ON MY BODY
WHILE I WAS OUT?

WELL,
DEPENDING
ON WHAT
YOU SAY TO
ME, I
MIGHT GET
ANGRY

WHUP WHUP WHUP

SO...WAS IT AN ATTEMPT TO LOOK FOR THE SOURCE OF THE INFO LEAK? OR WERE YOU JUST TRYING TO TEST THOSE OF US IN THE SECURITY DEPARTMENT?



HEY, WE'RE NOT PLAYING GAMES HERE. MY DEPARTMENT IS WAY TOO BUSY TO "TEST" PEOPLE.



AS YOU KNOW, SECURITY WASN'T GUARDING THE COMPANY PRESIDENT HIMSELF, BUT A DECOT. I'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE LACK OF SECURITY...



...BUT DO YOU THINK THEY MIGHT'VE MADE THE PRESIDENT PUBLICLY LOOK LIKE HE'D BEEN KILLED JUST TO COVER SOMETHING UP?

NO. THIS ENEMY'S GOT EXCELLENT SKILLS BUT POOR EXECUTION BESIDES, THEY'RE ULTRA SUSPICIOUS.

SO THEY WOULDN'T USE THAT APPROACH



ALSO, THEY'RE NOT AFTER THE PRESIDENT WE SHOULDN'T TIP OUR HAND UNTIL WE SEE HOW THEY PLAN TO PLAY THIS

IF WE KNOW WHO THEY ARE AND WHAT THEY'RE TRYING TO DO, CAN'T WE PULL A "BAIT AND SMASH"....?



NO, WE NEED TO CONFIRM THE DEGREE OF SECURITY SYSTEM EROSION, CONCENTRATE ON OUR OWN CORE DEFENSES, AND COMPENSATE FOR OUR LATE START IN ALL THIS. THE ATTACK ON THE PRESIDENT WAS BAIT PUT OUT FOR US BY THE ENEMY.



WE SIMPLY NEED MORE TIME BEFORE WE CAN MOVE TO TAKE THEM OUT CLEANLY.



NORMALLY I'D LEAVE THIS TO THE U.N.'S NET POLICE, BUT IN THIS CASE WE OUGHT TO LET INDIA OR SINGAPORE HANDLE IT.

I DON'T WANT POSEIDON'S SECRECY FIREWALL DESTROYED OR DAMAGED AS A RESULT OF THIS.

UH OH! LOOKS LIKE WE'VE ALREADY GOT SOME DAMAGE!

THE ANTI-VIRAL SYSTEM'S FLAKED... THE VIRUS THE ENEMY'S USING REJECTS ALL READ ATTEMPTS!

CLEVER!

GACK!

IT'S PENETRATED THREE BARRIERS!

BREEP! FZZK SPRK BZZT



WELL, I DON'T LIKE WAITING PASSIVELY UNTIL WE HAVE MORE VICTIMS

CAN'T YOU JUST RECONFIGURE THE DEFENSES? THEN--



MAX!

SEARCH FOR A "RAT" THAT OPENS IN AN INFECTED STATE WITHIN THE ORIGINAL BODY!

YES, MA'AM.



BOTH E-BRAIN AND NET ARE OUT... IT'S A PROTECTION 4 STAND-ALONE TYPE. HMM



LISTEN, I'VE GOT A FRIEND IN THE PUBLIC SECURITY NETWORK. WANT ME TO HAVE HIM DO A SEARCH FOR PEOPLE WHO MIGHT BE AFTER THE PRESIDENT?

I MIGHT ASK FOR THAT WHEN THE TIME COMES. BUT NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'VE GOT TO GO TO SLEEP.



"SLEEP"...? B...BUT ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU WERE DOING UNTIL JUST A COUPLE MINUTES-- ??

Z



--AND THAT'S
THE LAST THING
SHE SAID SHE
WAS STILL
"SLEEPING" OR
WHATEVER WHEN
I GOT OFF
THE HELO

NOW I REALLY
WANT TO KNOW
WHAT SORT OF
CONNECTIONS
SHE'S GOT.
GET ME HER
FILES!

SHE'S BEEN ADDING
INSULT TO INJURY
FOR JS EVER SINCE
SHE GOT HER
PRESENT JOB. WE
GOTTA GET RID OF
HER BEFORE OUR
BUDGET'S CUT...
DON'TCHA
THINK?



WHOA, DON'T
SAY THAT. I JUST
WANT TO KNOW
WHAT WE'RE UP
AGAINST BEFORE
WE REALLY BUTT
HEADS WITH
HER.

YOU GETTING
SOFT IN
YOUR OLD
AGE,
CHIEF...?



LESSEE... HER
PROSTHETIC
BODY'S AN
ANGELA CVI
DESIGN THAT
WAS POPULAR
ABOUT TWO
YEARS AGO...
HUH KINDA
PROLETARIAN,
GIVEN HER
SALARY.

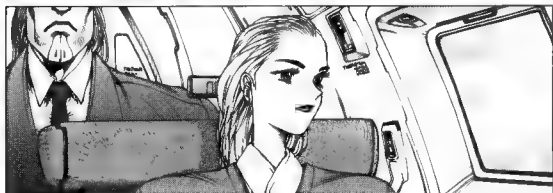
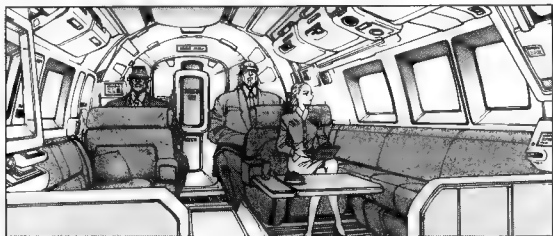
NO KIDDING.
SHE CAN'T
STILL BE
USING
GIMNY 30
FOR BODY
CONTROL
MUST BE A
SOFTWARE
OVERLAY

THINK IT
COULD BE
BODY
MIMICRY
TOO...?

WHAT?
LOOK AT THIS--
NO MILITARY
OR POLICE
EXPERIENCE!
WHO THE HELL
PROMOTED
HER?!



This book was originally published in 2001, which the Japanese government declared the "First Year of the IT Era". While a tad slow out of the gate, they're apparently going to promote digitalization and English education. Of course, if we're really going to promote this in our rapidly aging society, we'd probably be better off investing in R&D for multi-language translation software (as they're apparently doing at the UN) or subsidizing R&D on super-simple user interfaces... but are we doing so? Or doing enough? Or even getting any results?



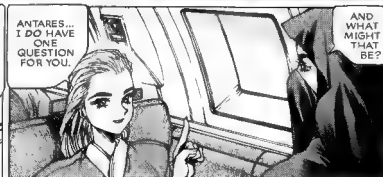
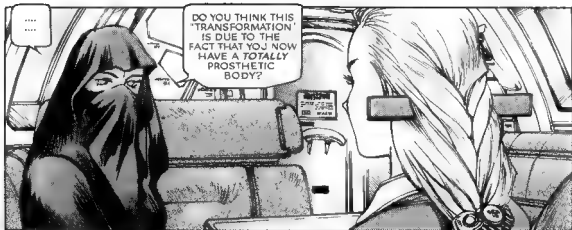


NO, I'M FINE



THANK YOU







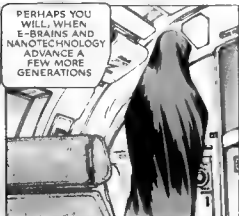
THE
STARS ARE
MOVING,
BUT I
CAN'T
SEE HIS
FORM

YET
SOMETIMES
I CANNOT
SEE YOUR
FORM,
EITHER



I KNOW OPTICAL
CAMOUFLAGE
DOESN'T WORK
ON YOU SO IT'S
SOMEHOW
COMFORTING TO
KNOW YOU CAN'T
SEE EVERY-
THING.

STILL...
I'D LOVE
TO HAVE
YOUR
ABILITY
TO "SEE,"
SOMEDAY



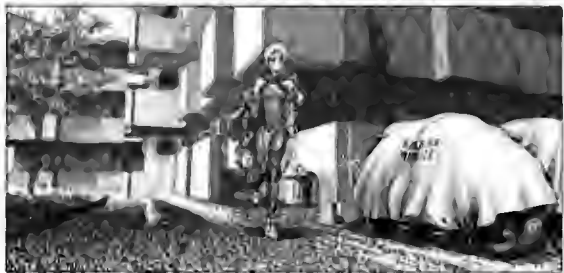
PERHAPS YOU
WILL, WHEN
E-BRAINS AND
NANOTECHNOLOGY
ADVANCE A
FEW MORE
GENERATIONS



WE COMPLETED THE
SATELLITE V-DELTA.
THE ITEM IN
QUESTION IS
CURRENTLY OVER THE
SKIES OF MANILA IN
ONE OF NANKAI
EXPRESS S PLANES
WE'VE ACTIVATED
THE DECOY CALLED
CHROMA FOR YOU

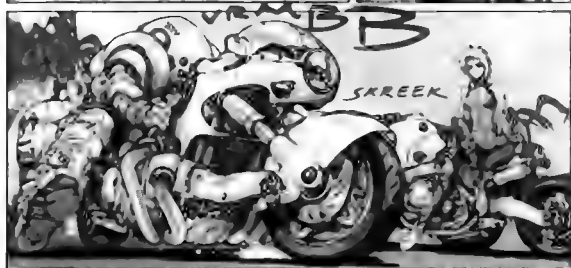
GOOD, TAKE CARE
OF MY BODY, AFTER
WE ARRIVE AT TPE,
EXECUTE DIRECTIVE
ARRAY 2-C MAKE
SURE I HAVE
AIR/GROUND
TRANSPORT TO THE
SAFE HOUSE. USE
ASSUMED NAME "K."

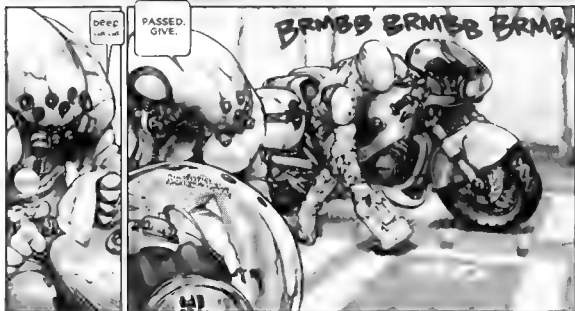


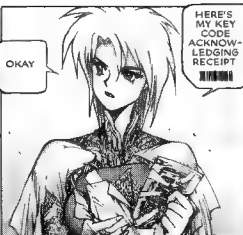




"Scattering" in this case refers to a scattering of radio waves coming in via satellite.







To improve the security of computers, the easiest thing is to not connect them to a network. But that's not a very good solution for most people, because they can't afford not to connect. In the near future we'll probably be inundated by networked household appliances, or IT appliances, and we'll need really good anti-virus strategies for them. Those who have appliances with heating elements or lots of family information stored in them will have to be especially careful. Somehow it scares me to think of cardkeys and fingerprint readers being used on my front door. So get to work, all you experts out there, I'm depending on you! (And how about running a network over the existing electrical wiring in a home? Does it really work? Is it safe?)







LOOKS LIKE
THE INPUTS
FROM A WIRE
PUBLIC TERMINAL,
SO IT CAN'T BE
TRACED FROM
E-PRINTS.

NO ROM
RECORDS...
NO LOGS...
FRAGMENTS...
HRM



LOOKS LIKE A
SINGLE-BRAIN AI
MADE FOR
GAMES... SLIGHTLY
MODIFIED. IT'S
COMPACT AND
RANDOMIZED

CAN'T DO A TRACE
BASED ON JUST THIS.
HRM...LOOKS LIKE
THE NEURO SECTION
WAS AFFECTED BY THE
ENCOUNTER. MAYBE I
CAN MANUALLY
MANIPULATE IT VIA
HARDWARE.

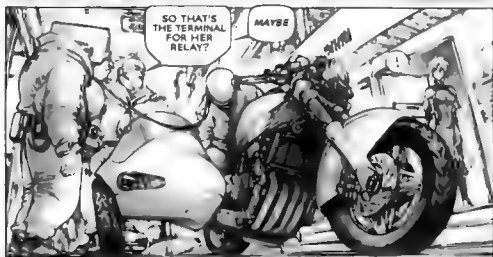


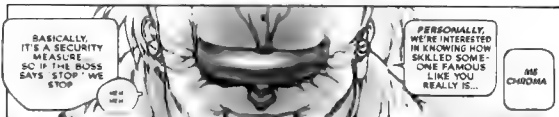
WELL
WILL YOU
DO IT OR
NOT?
P. 2 000

THE LAST TIME I
TURNED YOU DOWN I
WOULD UP LOCKED
IN A MULTIPHASIC
VIBAL ATTA IN FOR
THREE MONTHS AND
UNDERGOING A
NEAR-DEATH
EXPERIENCE

NO KIDDING...?
GUESS YOU NEED
STRONGER ANTI-
RODIES IF PRICE
IS YOUR
I COULD BE... YOU
SOME GOOD
ONES

I'LL BE
WAITING
OUTSIDE





By "fast," the man means the time it took her to find an access route, break through the barriers, infiltrate the target, and turn off the line.

THEY'VE
TAMPHERED
WITH THE
RELAYS AND
INFILTRATED
THE TERMINAL'S
BODY
AWARENESS!

MAYBE
THE SPIDERS
WERE
DEPLOYED
TOO
WIDELY...?

MY
PHYSICAL
BODY'S STILL
ON THE
MOTOR-
CYCLE
RIGHT
NOW

??
WHAT'S
THIS SKIN
SENSATION
ON MY
BACK?

EVEN
SO...THOSE
BOYS ARE
PRETTY
GOOD.

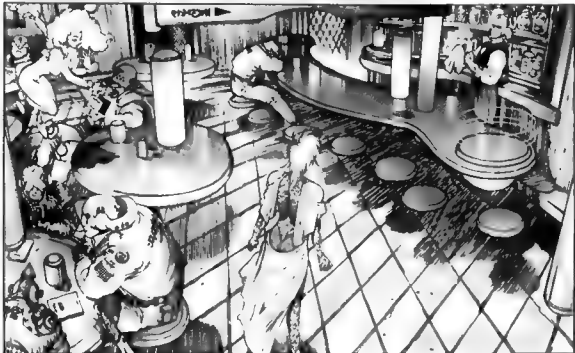
I'LL JUST
ASSUME
IT'S A
DISCONNECT
ALARM
SIGNAL

In this particular work, the e-brain matrix space is only drawn for effect. In reality there's no image I see it, nor any such "space." But the "game program space" depicted in this page assumes that visual, auditory, and olfactory senses have been made as real as possible and that the laws of the physical world do appear to apply at least to some extent.





THE PEOPLE HERE ARE SOME OF THE OTHER GAME PLAYERS (OR PROGRAMMERS) BUT I CAN'T SAY WHERE TO TELL WHICH



SO EACH PROGRAM-DRINK HOLDS THE KEY TO A COURSE RIGHT?

YES AFTER YOU DRINK IT PLEASE PROCEED TO THE SECOND FLOOR AND THROUGH THE GATE

YOU HAVE A ONE-MINUTE DELAY BEFORE THREE ARMED PLAYERS START COMING AFTER YOU ENJOY!

SO CHANGING THE CONTENTS OF THE PROGRAM-DRINK MAKES YOU ENTER A DIFFERENT COURSE HMM

AFTER AN "INVITATION" LIKE THIS, MAYBE I SHOULD LAY DOWN A FEW MINES AS PUNISHMENT

I NEED A LITTLE MORE RESPECT AROUND HERE!

ized and recorded earlier, Motoko has generated another course key and started executing a new program

GATE

Whist

Fwhooosh



THAT'S WEIRD
THERE'S NO
SIGN SHE
EVEN WENT
THROUGH
THIS SPECIAL
COURSE
START ZONE

LET'S
SEARCH
FOR
HER

I'LL MASK
US OUT
AND DO A
ONE-
MINUTE
REVERSE



HEY,
THERE'S
NO BREAK
SIGN!

MAYBE SHE
CRACKED
THE KEY AND
SKIPPED TO
ANOTHER
INDEX?



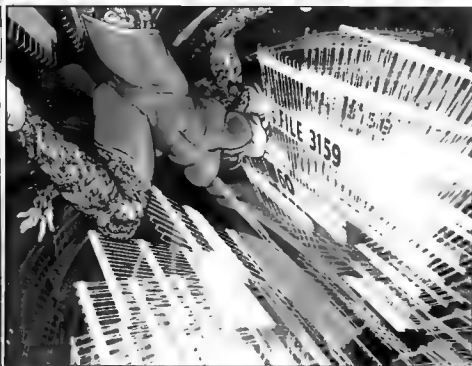
GOT IT!
SHE'S IN THE
"ROULETTE"
ON COURSE
NUMBER
FOUR!

WE'RE
GOING IN
FULL STAGE
MODE!

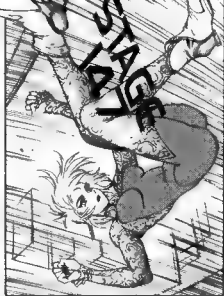
STAGE P MODE



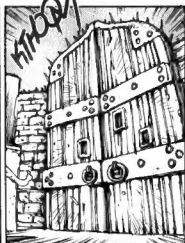
HMM
MAYBE
I'VE
BEEN
TAGGED



FILE 3159



If you were the one who entered this stage instead of Chroma, what action would you take next? Choose from among the following: (1) Remain where you are for some reason or because you don't know what to do (2) Go right for some reason (3) Go straight for some reason (4) Go left for some reason (Note that left is the direction taken in the fifth panel, right is the seventh panel) If you had only five seconds to decide, what would you do?



Motoko doesn't feel the effect, but normally there's a major emotion (fear or delight) included in the package. Players usually become involved with and experience this emotion.



I GET IT...
THERE ARE AS
MANY MULTIPLE
CHOICE PATHWAYS
AS THERE ARE
LAYERS IN THESE
FILE STACKS.



BUT IN THIS
COURSE, MAYBE
YOU'RE SUPPOSED
TO FIRST CHECK THE NUMBER
OF STAGES YOU PLAN
TO CLEAR BEFORE
ENTERING...

HMM...

THAT
WOULD
ACTUALLY
EXPLAIN
A LOT...



PZZK

PLWUSH

ENTER EXIT

I WONDER IF
THERE'S A
HANDICAP OR
SOME SORT
OF TRANS-
FORMATION
GIVEN TO THE
SECOND VISITOR?
OR MAYBE IT'S JUST
A COURSE TO EARN
SMALL CHANGE OR
EXPERIENCE
POINTS...?



BLBB



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2

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